

REPORT

ON THE

POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF THE TERRITORIES WITHIN THE

CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY

FOR

1907-08

By

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PART I.

REVIEW BY THE AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

1. *Agricultural Conditions.*—From the agricultural point of view the record of the year 1907-08 was unfortunate. The monsoon set in late and ceased early. The rainfall was generally below the average and was unevenly distributed. In many parts of Central India the makka and jowar crops were much damaged by abnormally heavy rain in August, and the early cessation of the rains resulted in a serious contraction of the area sown for the rabi crop. In the northern and central portions of Gwalior and in the petty States and Estates under that Residency the yield of the kharif only averaged from 5 to 8 annas, while in Bundelkhand it was even less. In Baghelkhand the out-turn from this crop only amounted to about one-twelfth of that garnered in the preceding year. In the Bhopal State, in spite of the deficient rain, the harvests were not seriously affected; but elsewhere in Central India the kharif was generally poor. At the close of 1907 the outlook was decidedly gloomy; but in a large part of Gwalior, in Bundelkhand, and in the Bhopal Agency the situation was relieved by timely rain in January and February 1908, which greatly benefited such tracts as had been brought under rabi. Nevertheless the rabi yield in Gwalior only averaged from 8 to 12 annas; it was poor in Bundelkhand, and in Baghelkhand the harvest was only about a quarter of that of the previous year.

2. *Famine.*—Preparations for meeting the threatened famine or scarcity were made in good time in all Agencies. His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa set a good example by opening relief works at an early date. The operations were mostly conducted by the village head-men, aided by funds supplied by the Darbar, and took the practical and useful form of the construction of field *bundhs*. In Bundelkhand the excellent harvests of the preceding year had left the people in good heart; there was an unusually good grass crop; and plenty of well-paid work was available through the construction by the United Provinces Government of reservoirs, etc., in connection with the extension of the canal systems in British Bundelkhand. Actual relief operations were consequently not required on the scale which had at first been anticipated; but, wherever they proved to be necessary—and noticeably in Datia, where the young Maharaja displayed commendable interest and activity—the Darbars and Jagirdars concerned met the situation promptly and thoroughly. Jhabua,

in the Bhopawar Agency, was the only other State in which actual famine relief proved necessary in the period under review. The operations were successfully supervised by Lieutenant C. H. S. Robarts, of the Malwa Bhil Corps, under the direction of the Political Agent, Major F. G. Beville. The detailed history of the relief operations belongs more properly to the succeeding year.

In Gwalior His Highness the Maharaja Scindia displayed his usual forethought and promptness and averted distress by liberal grants of takkavi and by well-devised extensions of his Public Works programme. Similarly judicious liberality and energy were displayed by the Raja of Dhar and the Rana of Ali Rajpur in the Bhopawar Agency, with the result that in these States it was not necessary to have recourse to measures of actual relief. Throughout Central India, fodder and water were generally sufficient and the maintenance of cattle did not present the same difficulties as in previous recent seasons of inadequate rainfall.

3. Special Crops.—Last year I drew attention to the increased cultivation of wheat and cotton in Central India. I reproduce the table then given, with the addition of figures for 1907-08, which indicate the effect of the unfavourable monsoon :—

Wheat	Area in acres.	Outturn in tons.	Cotton.	Area in acres	Outturn in tons.
(i) Averages, 1895-96 to 1904-05.	1,498	302	(i) Averages, 1900-01 to 1904-05.	656	35
(ii) 1905-06 (famine) .	1,852	421	(ii) 1905-06 (famine) .	979	34
(iii) 1906-07 . . .	2,896	640	(iii) 1906-07 . . .	1,177	59
(iv) 1907-08 . . .	1,680	323	(iv) 1907-08 . . .	1,027	14

The actuals relating to opium in the last two years were :—

Opium.	Area in acres.	Outturn in maunds.
1906-07	163	30
1907-08	117	21

(All the above figures are in thousands, omitting 000.)

4. Forests.—Increased attention has been paid during the year, and not without a considerable measure of success, to the important subject of forest conservation. In Gwalior, as noted by the Maharaja Scindia in the review of the State's administration for 1906-07, the results were not satisfactory; but the new arrangements to which His Highness alludes and which have since been introduced will, it is confidently hoped, lead to marked improvement.

In Indore the benefit of the careful and experienced supervision of Mr. Biscoe is beginning to make itself apparent and the net forest income rose in 1907 by nearly Rs. 25,000. In November 1907 the Maharaja of Rewa secured the valuable services of Mr. R. M. Williamson, who, under an arrangement to which His Highness kindly agreed, will also supervise the Forest Department of Nagod. In the year 1907-08 the forest revenue of Rewa rose by over half a lakh of rupees to a total of nearly 5½ lakhs.

In Bhopal Her Highness the Begam has already had the satisfaction of witnessing the fruit of the liberal support which she has wisely accorded to the efforts of Mr. Narsingh Rao, whose services were lent to the Darbar by the Administration of the Central Provinces. The revenue from the Bhopal forests rose in 1907-08 to Rs. 1,72,000, as against Rs. 71,000 in the previous

year. Several of the smaller States in this Agency are also improving their forest administration.

In the Bhopawar Agency the results achieved continued to exhibit a steady improvement, as is indicated by the following table :—

Years.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.
1901 02 to 1904-05	..	..	31,206 (average).
1905 06	1,40,860	63,957	76,903
1906-07	1,58,711	59,632	99,079
1907-08	1,99,861	76,474	1,23,387

In Bundelkhand Mr. Blanchfield continued to do excellent work. The net forest income of the Panna State showed a further increase to Rs. 46,000 from Rs. 40,000.

5. *Forest Conference*.—In accordance with a suggestion made by the Government of India, a conference of Forest Officers was held at Indore in November 1907. It was attended by—

Mr. W. F. Biscoe, Forest Officer in Indore;
 Mr. R. M. Williamson, Forest Officer in Rewa;
 Mr. J. D. St. Joseph, Forest Officer in the Bhopawar Agency;
 Mr. J. M. Blanchfield, Forest Officer for certain States in the Bundelkhand Agency;
 Mr. Narsingh Rao, Forcst Officer in Bhopal;
 M. Ghulam Muhammad, Forest Officer in Ajaigarh;
 Thakur Ranjit Singh, Forest Officer in Narsinghgarh.

The Government of India kindly deputed Mr. A. M. F. Caccia, Imperial Superintendent of Forest Working Plans, to preside. The proceedings of the conference were of a highly interesting character and they recorded thirteen*

* Reproduced as Appendix No IV. resolutions, which, with a forwarding letter from Mr. Caccia, and a letter and certain notes written by Mr. S. Eardley-Wilmot, C. I. E., Inspector General of Forests, were duly submitted to the Government of India

6. *Forest School*.—Through the kindness of the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, six places in the Balaghat Forest School were allotted in 1907-08 to pupils from States of Central India. The number of candidates for the school was largely in excess of the number of vacancies and the Chief Commissioner has been invited to consider whether it will not be possible in future to arrange for the reception of more students from Central India.

7. *Medical Institutions and Public Health*.—The separate report which has been furnished by the Administrative Medical Officer on medical institutions in Central India and connected matters shows that satisfactory progress was made during the year 1907 and contains some interesting general remarks on the subject of medical institutions in India. The number of hospitals and dispensaries in Central India is shown as 208 against 191 in 1906 and 147 in 1905. The number of persons seeking medical relief is estimated to have increased by about 50,000. The number of medical men working in Central India in 1907 is given as 317. The medical expenditure of the States is returned as over $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, Gwalior headed the list with an expenditure of over $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; Indore came second with over one lakh; while Bhopal and Rewa each spent over half a lakh, and Dhar over a quarter of a lakh. The general health was good.

Deaths from plague were returned as 8,800 against 12,000 in 1906. Thanks to the example set by Her Highness the Begam, inoculation was freely resorted to in Bhopal, where plague was for a time present in epidemic form.

8. The Charitable Hospital in the Indore Residency and the Medical School which is attached thereto have continued to do excellent work under the able and active direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts, the Residency Surgeon and Administrative Medical Officer.

9. *Sanitation.*—Mr. Lane-Brown's scheme for the sanitation of the Indore Residency Bazars, with which his scheme for the sanitation for the Indore City is necessarily connected, has been submitted for the orders of the Government of India.

10. *Police.*—The re-organisation scheme for the Central India Agency Police still awaits the orders of the Government of India. The attached report [Part III (1)] by Mr. Waterfield shows that the force has continued to do excellent work under somewhat difficult conditions. There was a satisfactory decrease in crime in the areas with which the force has to deal. My acknowledgments are due to Mr. Waterfield and to the officers whose names he brings to notice.

11. *Crime.*—In a separate report [Part III (2)] Mr. Waterfield reviews the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department under his orders. In view of the agricultural conditions of the year, it is especially satisfactory to note a further decrease in dakaiti, the total number of cases being 68 for the whole of Central India, as against 90 in 1906 and 98 in 1905. The decrease, as observed by Mr. Waterfield, was common to all Agencies and the records of Gwalior, Indore, Bhopal, and the Bhopawar Agency are particularly good. The results obtained in the case of the Ahrora gang of dakaits are also a matter for congratulation.

The continued improvement in the relations between the Department and the various Darbars is in itself evidence of the tact and self-restraint of Mr. Waterfield and of the officers serving under his orders, while it also testifies to the desire of the States to improve and develop their Police administration.

12. *Public Works.*—The Public Works Department, under the able and tactful direction of Colonel W. W. Baker, R.E., has done much valuable work and the advantages of the re-organisation, whereby Central India has a whole-time Secretary and Superintending Engineer, have been apparent in every direction. I am greatly indebted to Colonel Baker for much general support and assistance and for the readiness which he has constantly displayed to advise and aid the Darbars by whom he has constantly been consulted in a personal and unofficial manner.

13. *Protective Irrigation.*—Mr. H. Marsh, C.I.E., continued to devote himself with energy to his special duties. He completed the Sindh Canal Project, which is now under the consideration of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia in so far as the interests of Gwalior are affected. Mr. Marsh, at the request of Her Highness the Begam, paid much attention to certain schemes for irrigation in that State, and he also made good progress in developing other important projects in the Bundelkhand Agency.

14. *Excise, etc.*—Mr. Cox's interesting report [Part III (5)] merits perusal. The reforms on which he is engaged are of such a nature as to demand slow and cautious procedure. The progress which has already been made is, however, more substantial than was anticipated when he took up his appointment and furnishes proof that Mr. Cox is gaining the confidence of the Darbars whose co-operation has, with scarcely an exception, been gratifyingly ready.

15. *Opium.*—The pass duty realised on opium in 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,01,34,000, as against Rs. 81,76,000 in 1906 and Rs. 92,39,000 in 1905.

16. *Communications.*—The Maharaja Scindia is to be congratulated on the steady progress of the Gwalior Light Railways. The statement given in Appendix LXVII of the Gwalior Administration Report for 1906-07 shows that the net earnings rose from Rs. 85,000 in 1905-06 to Rs. 1,21,000 in

1906-07, while the percentage of working expenses on gross earnings fell from 62.88 to 56.68. The net interest on capital in 1906-07 was 1.63 per cent. against 1.32 per cent. in the preceding year. The Resident notes that the receipts for the half year which ended on the 31st December 1907 were Rs. 1,13,000, against Rs. 1,03,000 for the corresponding period in 1906.

17. *Education.*—A separate report has been submitted on the Daly College. It is sufficient to note here that the progress made has been in all respects satisfactory. The College meetings have been fully attended and general interest in its affairs continues to increase.

18. The leading States in Central India continue, as their reports show, to devote suitable attention to their educational departments and, with reference to my remarks last year, I am pleased to notice that the number of village schools in Rewa has been increased from 32 to 42, and that the average daily attendance of pupils has risen from 1,671 to 2,260.

19. *Deaths of Chiefs.*—Three Ruling Chiefs of Central India died during 1907-08. His Highness Maharaja Lokendra Sir Bhawani Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., of Datia, who was in his 62nd year, died suddenly on the 3rd of August 1907, a few hours after the birth of a son and heir to his only son, Raja Bahadur Govind Singh, by whom he has been succeeded. Had the late Chief survived but three months, he would have occupied the *gadi*, to which he was raised amid the troubles of the mutiny, for 50 years.

An even older Chief was Raja Raghbir Singh of Maihar, who had reached the age of 63 years and who succeeded as far back as 1863. In his time the title of Raja was made hereditary in Maihar and a salute was attached to the Chiefship. He died in March 1908 and the succession fell to his eldest son, Jadubir Singh.

Rao Bahadur Bhawani Singh of Khilchipur died in January 1908, at the comparatively early age of 41. He was succeeded by his only son, Durjan Sal Singh, who was then in his eleventh year.

20. *Grant of Ruling Powers.*—His Highness Raja Udaji Rao Puar of Dhar was invested with ruling powers in his State in December 1907 and was married at the end of the same month to a daughter of the Sar Desai of Savantvadi.

His Highness Raja Tukoji Rao Puar of Dewas, Senior Branch, was similarly invested with ruling powers in February 1908 and was married in the following month to the only daughter of His Highness the Chhatrapati Maharaja of Kolhapur.

21. *Honours.*—His Highness Raja Bane Singh, of Rajgarh, was created a Knight Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire on the 1st January 1908 and had the additional honour of being personally invested by His Excellency the Viceroy at the Chapter of the Indian Orders which was held at Calcutta at the end of that month.

Her Highness the Rani Bhatianiji, widow of His late Highness Raja Mahtab Singh of Narsinghgarh, was granted the personal title of Maharani on the 1st January 1908, in recognition of her public spirit and wise liberality.

Their Highnesses the Nawab of Jaora and the Raja of Ratlam were made honorary Captains in His Majesty's Army in March 1908.

The personal title of Rai Bahadur was conferred on Lala Bisheshar Nath, Dewan of Rajgarh, and that of Rai Sahib on Munshi Gopi Nath, formerly Dewan of Bijawar.

Kaisar-i-Hind medals of the 2nd Class were bestowed upon Rai Bahadur Jugal Kishore (since deceased), who had distinguished himself as Central Famine Officer in Gwalior in 1905-06; and upon Mrs. Grant, M.D. (*née* Miss Blong), who had earned a deservedly high reputation during the years for which she was in charge of Her Highness the Begam's Lansdowne Hospital for women at Bhopal.

22. *Individual Agencies.*—(a) *Gwalior.*—An important change was made at the close of the year under review by the transfer to the charge of the Resident of the outlying districts of the Gwalior State which were formerly

allotted to the Bhopal and Malwa Political Agencies. A number of guaranteed Estates, situate in these districts, were similarly transferred. To aid the Resident in the discharge of his increased duties one of the Assistants to the Agent to the Governor General was placed under the Resident's orders.

23. The Gwalior State's Administration Report for 1906-07 is, like previous issues, a full and valuable record and contains, as the Resident observes, evidence of substantial progress in many directions. The Maharaja Scindia's long and able review testifies to the care and attention which His Highness constantly bestows upon every branch of the administration. I agree with the Resident that the creation of the "Majlis-i-khas" is a wise measure and I trust that it may result in affording His Highness some relief in connection with the details of administration. I note with pleasure the Resident's remark that "the Judicial Department has been steadily improving during the year." His Highness's keen interest in education has been fully maintained and special attention has been paid to important questions connected with Customs and Excise. The increased popularity of the Agricultural Banks is a gratifying feature and I am glad to note that steps are being taken to introduce preventive measures against cattle disease. The working of the Police Department has, as Colonel Pinhey observes, been very satisfactory. The development of trade and commerce has been marked.

24. The appointment of a Native Assistant to aid the Resident in dealing with the affairs of the petty States and Estates in his charge is a measure which should prove fruitful of good. The record of these little units during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory.

25. (b) *Indore*.—Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) J. L. Kaye assumed charge of the Indore Residency from Mr. O. V. Bosanquet in August 1907. I have little to add to Colonel Kaye's interesting review, in which he justly claims that progress was steadily maintained in all departments. The Minister, Rai Bahadur Nanak Chand, C.I.E., and his colleagues in the Council of Regency have continued to discharge their duties with zeal and success, while the records of the Police, and of the Public Works, Educational, Forest, and Medical Departments reflect credit upon Messrs. Seagrim, Cowley, Cholmondeley, and Biscoe, and Dr. Tambe. The finances of the State have been receiving special attention and are now, in my opinion, on a satisfactory footing. The young Maharaja continued to prosecute his studies at the Mayo College and remained under the care of Mr. H. Clogstoun, C.I.E., as Tutor and Guardian.

The amalgamation of the Holkar State Post Office with the Imperial Post Office was carried out with effect from the 1st January 1908.

26. (c) *Baghelkhand Agency*.—The Political Agent's review indicates how severely the Agency was affected by the failure of the monsoon. I have already referred to the timely measures which were taken by the Maharaja of Rewa. The engagement by His Highness of Mr. R. M. Williamson for the charge of the Forest Department and the increased attention which His Highness paid to education by opening ten new village schools are the only other matters which need be specially mentioned here.

27. (d) *Bhopal Agency*.—The Political Agent's review gives a full and interesting summary of the affairs of his charge and the record may fairly be described as generally satisfactory. Her Highness the Begam continued to devote herself with great energy to the development and improvement of her State and is distinctly to be congratulated on the results achieved.

28. (e) *Bhopawar Agency*.—In the Bhopawar Agency the difficulties arising from the scanty and ill-distributed rainfall were met in a manner that is deserving of much commendation. The fact that there was no outbreak of crime among the Bhils is, in the circumstances, a matter for special congratulation. The spirit in which the young Chief of Dhar faced the situation with which he was confronted when he received ruling powers in December 1907 confirms the confidence with which his friends look forward to his future record. The Political Agent also justly congratulates the Rana of Ali Rajpur on his successful efforts to meet the troubles to which the unfavourable season threatened to give rise.

29. (f) *Bundelkhand Agency*.—For reasons which are explained in the Political Agent's review, the majority of the States and Jagirs in Bundelkhand were enabled to tide over the cold weather of 1907-08 more easily than might have been anticipated in view of the unfavourable monsoon of 1907. Mr. Jardine shows that, in spite of the difficulties of the season, good progress was made in many branches of administration. In January 1908 Mr. L. W. Reynolds, I.C.S., was temporarily deputed to Datia to assist the young Maharaja. The results of this deputation were entirely satisfactory; but will be more properly noticed in the report for 1908-09.

30. (g) *Malwa Agency*.—The affairs of the two Dewas States and of the Bagli Thakurate, which were transferred to this Agency in March 1907, received special attention. The young Raja of Dewas, Senior Branch, who is a Chief of special promise, was granted ruling powers in February 1908. The Gwalior districts of the Malwa Prant and some of the guaranteed Thakurates in that area were transferred to the charge of the Resident at Gwalior at the end of 1907-08.

The distinguished Minister of Jaora, Khan Bahadur Yar Muhammad Khan, C.S.I., was compelled by ill-health to withdraw (it was hoped* only temporarily) from the administration in July 1907, when his duties were taken over personally by His Highness the Nawab. Owing to the recurrence of successive bad seasons the finances of the State continue to be somewhat heavily embarrassed.

On the resignation of his Dewan in August 1907, the Raja of Ratlam assumed personal charge of the administration of his State, which His Highness has conducted in an able manner.

The Political Agent bestows a word of well-deserved praise upon the administration of Sitamau under the careful and conscientious supervision of the young Raja.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS, ETC.

31. I have already made such comments as are necessary on the usual Departmental reports which are herewith enclosed. The personnel of the Agency during the year is given in Appendix No. III.

H. DALY,

*Agent to the Governor General
in Central India.*

DATED INDORE;
The 23rd January 1909.

PART II.

AGENCY REVIEWS BY POLITICAL OFFICERS.

(1) REVIEW BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. F. PINHEY, C.I.E., RESIDENT AT GWALIOR, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE GWALIOR RESIDENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. *General.*—The charge of the Residency during the earlier part of the year was held by Major H. L. Showers, C.I.E., who, having been relieved by Major A. F. Pinhey, C.I.E., the present incumbent, proceeded to England on a year's combined leave on the afternoon of the 13th October 1907.

Lieutenant J. L. R. Weir, I.A., joined the Residency on the 28th January 1908 as Assistant to the Resident.

There was no Residency Surgeon up to November 1907. On the 8th of this month, Captain F. D. S. Fayrer, I.M.S., took over charge of the Residency Hospital, which he held till the end of the year.

2. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall during the year was very unfavourable. It commenced rather late and lasted incessantly for about a month. The total fall was, however, much below the average. Incessant rain in August 1907 interfered greatly with the sowings of kharif crops and the total cessation thereafter not only stunted their growth but damaged them almost all over. Kharif crops yielded an out-turn of from 5 to 8 annas and the rabi between 8 to 12 annas.

The preceding year fortunately happened to be a favourable one and the kharif crop was generally above the average, while the rabi, which had to some extent been damaged by hail storms and in places by insects, was not much below the average. These good harvests afforded a great relief to the people and acute distress was not much felt.

As a precautionary measure and to prevent distress from increasing, His Highness ordered the reduction of import duties on food grains by half, and a lakh of rupees was advanced at a low rate of interest to the grain dealers in order that they might keep up a supply of grain. Advances for digging of wells were given freely from the agricultural banks and liberal remissions and postponements of land revenue were also granted.

The condition of the petty States and Estates was not much inferior to that of the districts of Gwalior State. Rabi cultivation was restricted mostly to irrigated area and the yield did not go beyond 8 or 10 annas. Kharif was almost a failure in Khaniadhana, Sirsi, and Agra-Barkhera. Elsewhere the yield varied from 4 to 8 annas.

In the Residency area, relief was afforded to the distressed population gratuitously and by famine labour.

3. *Public Health.*—This was uniformly good throughout the Agency. Some plague, as in previous years, again appeared in the Malwa Prant of the Gwalior State, but fortunately it soon subsided. No part of the State is now infected with the epidemic.

4. *Occurrences of Note.*—A feature of the year was the collision of His Highness's special train (on the 27th October 1907) with a passenger train within the station yard at Antri Railway Station. His Highness was fortunately unhurt. Some of his followers were slightly injured, but there was no loss of life.

His Highness proceeded to Kolhapur to take part in the marriage ceremony of the Raja of Dewas, Senior Branch, with the daughter of the Maharaaja of Kolhapur, which was celebrated in February 1908.

One of the most important features of the year was the private visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Gwalior at the end of March 1908. The visit occupied about three weeks, the greater part of which was spent at Sipri for *shikar* purposes. The visit was an entire success. Colonel Daly paid a flying visit to Sipri during His Excellency's stay there.

5. *Judicial*.—The cases tried by the Resident during the year were 5 in number, *viz.* one of murder under section 302, Indian Penal Code, in which the two accused Wazir Khan and Motikhhan, committed by the Superintendent of Raghugarh, were sentenced to transportation for life and rigorous imprisonment for two years respectively; one of culpable homicide under section 304, Indian Penal Code, in which the accused, committed by the Kamdar of Parone, was sentenced to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment; one under section 222, Indian Penal Code, in which the accused, committed by the Political Assistant at Goona, was sentenced to 2 months' rigorous imprisonment; one of robbery under sections 934 and 411, Indian Penal Code, in which the 6 accused, committed by the Political Assistant at Goona, were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment; one of dākāti under section 395, Indian Penal Code, in which the accused, committed by the Political Assistant at Goona, was discharged.

Two appeals were lodged during the year against the decision of the Railway Magistrate at Jhansi in both of which the decisions of the Magistrate were upheld and the appeals were rejected.

* Two between Gwalior and the Indore and Jaora States; one between Gwalior and Khania. 6. *Boundary*.—The 3rd boundary dispute cases reported in the last review are still pending.

A fresh dispute arose between the people of Basai of Khaniadhana and Makrari of Orchha, about the possession of a patch of land. Lieutenant Weir was deputed as Boundary Settlement Officer to take up the case. His decision was upheld on appeal.

7. *Political*.—Major Showers visited, in April and May 1907, Morena and Bhind—the most important trading towns of Gwalior—and inspected the several cotton and ginning presses with great interest. In August he went round the petty States and Estates under the Residency on a short tour. Major Pinhey, since his arrival in October 1907, has devoted much time to visiting these States and Estates and fully acquainting himself with their internal affairs. He drew up exhaustive notes on the condition of each unit and its administration.

The minor States being in need of the services of a special Assistant for their control, the Government of India were pleased to sanction the appointment of a Native Assistant. Lala Dina Nath, an Extra Assistant Commissioner of the Punjab, who was originally nominated to this post, was obliged to resign after spending only one week at Gwalior. Lala Bishan Dass, Extra Assistant Commissioner, has now been appointed in his place and has taken over charge at Goona since the close of the year under report.

The charge of the Residency has now become heavier by the transfer of the outlying districts of the Gwalior State along with certain of its feudatories, which were hitherto within the jurisdiction of the Political Agents in Bhopal and Malwa, to the Political charge of the Resident. At the same time an Assistant to the Resident has been appointed to deal with the extra work involved by this transfer and Lieutenant Weir joined at Gwalior in February 1908.

8. The Circuit House at Sipri was brought to a completion during the year. The Consulting Architect and Colonel Baker inspected the Residency building and a design for the new Residency is under preparation by the Consulting Architect, while the Government of India in the Public Works Department have sanctioned the demolition of the existing building and the Resident, under orders, has removed to a Darbar bungalow situated within the Residency limits.

9. *Trade and Commerce*.—The Gwalior Darbar's last report contains a very interesting account of the improvements in connection with trade anticipated by the Darbar and the account hardly claims any addition except that

the State workshop has lately been placed under the superintendence of a European, Mr. R. W. Didcock, and is being worked on a very large scale. A new tannery has also been started at a capital of Rs. 10,000. Mr. Bird is the proprietor of the business.

10. *Railways*.—The three lines of Gwalior Light Railway are giving satisfactory returns; the receipts for the half-year ending on the 31st December 1907 being Rs. 1,13,122-2-10, as against Rs. 1,03,823-0-8 for the corresponding half-year in 1906. The increase, however, was largely due to the increased traffic caused by the prevailing scarcity requiring heavy imports of grain and fodder and to the heavy export of hides. The work of the construction of the Sabalgarh-Sheopur line is nearing completion and it is expected that the line will be opened for traffic by December next.

The earnings on account of other Railway lines passing through the Darbar territory for the half-year ending on the 31st December 1906 and 1907 were as under :—

	1906.	1907.
(1) Bhopal-Ujjain Railway	93,037	1,15,726
(2) Nagda-Ujjain Railway	24,982	31,455
(3) Bina-Baran Railway	78,438	1,00,966

11. *Public Works Department*.—The subject of the conservation of ancient monuments is receiving the Darbar's careful consideration and suitable arrangements have been made to carry out the wishes of the Government of India in ensuring the supervision and safety of old buildings of historical value by the appointment of a separate Engineer to look after them and the provision of funds required for their up-keep.

The portion of the Jhansi-Sipri Road, which was so long under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Government, was transferred to the Darbar.

The services of Rai Sahib N. N. Mukerji were obtained from the Central Provinces Government for irrigation work in the Malwa Division under Mr. Sydney Preston, C.I.E.

Mr. Marsh, C.I.E., completed the Sindh Canal project. A copy of the project was forwarded to the Darbar for consideration.

12. *Education*.—The Technical and Industrial Institutes are doing well.

There are now only 3 Residency wards who are pupils at the Maharaja's Sardars' School :—

- (1) Kunwar Madho Singh of Agra-Barkhera.
- (2) Kunwar Hanmant Singh of Dharnaoda.
- (3) Diwan Jeewan Singh of Sirsi.

The Raja of Bhadaura and his brother have left on coming of age.

Kunwar Khalak Singh of Khaniadhana was admitted as a student at the Daly College during the year.

The Parone boys and the young Raja of Raghugarh are still at the Daly College and the Principal reports well about their progress.

Mr. Johnstone has proceeded on leave to England.

The Sardars' and the Military Schools will shortly be transferred as proposed to the Gwalior Fort.

13. *Dakaiti, etc.*.—Reports of 31 dakaiti cases in Gwalior territory were received during the year 1907. Omitting from consideration one dakaiti, which though committed in 1906 was not reported until 1907, the number of dakaitis for the year 1907 stands at 30 against 27 of the preceding year.

Twenty-four dakaitis only were committed in that portion of the Gwalior State which is in the direct Political charge of the Resident at Gwalior; the amount of property stolen was Rs. 24,094.

In the remaining seven cases, which took place in the Malwa and Bhopawar Agencies, the value of the property plundered amounted to Rs. 17,853.

Four really bad dákaitis were committed during the year 1907, *viz.*, at:—

- (1) Village Morena in the Tawarghar district. In this case property amounting to Rs. 5,809 was plundered, one person was killed, and 15 were wounded.
- (2) Village Gawal in the Neemueh district. In this case property amounting to Rs. 4,427 was carried away, 2 persons were wounded, and 125 were concerned.
- (3) Village Cholna in the Esagarh pargana. In this case property worth Rs. 4,572 was looted, 2 persons were wounded, and 19 were concerned.
- (4) Village Bisalwas Khurd in the Mandsaur district. In this case property amounting to Rs. 3,049 was carried away, 2 persons were wounded, and 100 were concerned.

There were two other important dákaitis, *viz.*, at (1) village Harwad in the Neemueh district and (2) village Barode in the Narwar pargana. The property plundered amounted to Rs. 7,773 and Rs. 4,277, and the number of persons concerned was 125 and 30 respectively, but there were no casualties.

One case of mail robbery was reported to have occurred at village Ciñarai in the Sheopur pargana of the Gwalior State. In this case 12 dákaiti were concerned and one dák bag, kurta, dhoti, belt, one sword, and a rupee were carried away. The contents of the bag have not yet been reported although the Assistant Inspector General of Police, District Esagarh, and the Post Master General have been addressed by the Gwalior Darbar.

No cases of poisoning for plunder were brought to notice and no reports of the occurrence of dákaiti cases were received from the petty States during the year.

During the year, only one official was sent by the Gwalior Darbar to the Training School at Indore to be examined in the Finger Impression System and he obtained a pass. The Darbar has now opened a Finger Impression Class and the Police officials, after being trained, will be sent to Indore to be examined. The new system will thus be gradually introduced throughout the State. No Finger Impression Slips have been received from the Gwalior Darbar during the year. The Raghugarh State now employs a Finger Impression Expert and slips have been received during the year for transmission to Indore.

The relations between the Thagi and Dákaiti officials and the State Police were entirely satisfactory. The Thagi and Dákaiti staff was under Sardar Bahadur Dyal Singh Gyani attached to the Residency.

14. *Army.*—The following three candidates from Gwalior were enrolled in the Imperial Cadet Corps :—

- (1) Yeshwant Rao Bhonsle.
- (2) Madho Rao Kadam.
- (3) Sayed Abdul Wahab Hazratji.

15. *Extradition.*—During the year under review, there were several cases of desertion from the British Army and the deserters were found in the Darbar territory. The extradition of such deserters was demanded from the Darbar and they complied with the request in all cases.

16. *Excise and Customs.*—The Darbar's proposals for the improvement of their Excise Administration on the lines suggested by Mr. Cox are before the Government of India.

17. *States and Estates under Management. Agra-Barkhera.*—The Estate is excellently managed by an able Kamdar, M. Sayed Ali Ahmed. It is purely due to his efforts that the Estate is now quite free from debt and has a balance of Rs. 19,000 at its credit of which Rs. 10,000 are in deposit with the Bank of Bengal. In reward for his meritorious services, the Kamdar's pay was increased to Rs. 100 per mensem.

The Honourable the Agent to the Governor General in Central India sanctioned the powers of a 3rd class Magistrate being conferred on the Thakur and the hearing of Civil suits up to Rs. 50, under the general supervision of the Kamdar.

Bhadaura.—There is nothing very important to note with respect to this Estate. It is fairly managed by the present Kamdar, M. Tufel Ahmed. The Estate is in debt to the extent of Rs. 2,500 including the sum of Rs. 1,000 lately borrowed from Government for famine purposes.

Dharnaoda.—The Estate is supervised by a Kamdar who is also the Superintendent of Raghugarh. As a tentative measure, the Thakur has been allowed to have a hand in the administration. The Estate's debts approximately amount to Rs. 10,000.

Khiauda.—There is nothing special to note regarding this small Estate. It is being satisfactorily administered by the Kamdar.

Parone.—M. Brijbhushan Lal, the Kamdar of the Estate, deputed from the Residency Establishment in 1903, was not found to be quite fitted for the post and, under the orders of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General, the management of the Estate was entrusted to B. Hira Lal, B.A., Kamdar of Sirsi, the adjoining Estate. It is hoped matters will soon improve under his supervision.

The Estate's debt amounts to Rs. 15,000.

Raghugarh.—Owing to the death of M. Sheopershad Bahargav, a Deputy Collector of the United Provinces, who was lent by the United Provinces Government for the superintendentship of this State, the appointment of another Superintendent became necessary, and M. Sayed Ali Ahmed Jafari, the joint Kamdar of Garha and Dharnaoda, was selected for the post, and the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General approved of the suggestion.

The financial position of the State is very satisfactory, the balance at the credit of the State now being over Rs. 60,000 of which Rs. 56,000 have been invested in Government securities. A combined Post and Telegraph Office was opened during the year.

Sirsi.—The troubles at Sirsi were at a climax owing to the mischief of the late Kamdar who was a Kayastha inhabitant of the place. Lieutenant Weir was deputed to enquire into the several false charges brought by him against the present Kamdar. Lieutenant Weir successfully put matters right and ordered the late Kamdar to leave the Estate for good so that there may be no further impediments in the administrative affairs.

The Estate's debts amount to Rs. 3,000. The Kamdar has proposed to repay the whole amount during the next year.

18. *States and Estates not under management*. *Garha*.—Nothing special to note about this State. The State is being managed satisfactorily by the Chief.

Kathaun.—Nothing important to note.

Khaniadham.—The family disputes between the Raja and the Rani still exist and it cannot be expected that they will easily be brought to a close.

Umri.—The Estate is being satisfactorily administered by the Chief.

19. *Miscellaneous*.—On a careful enquiry into the way in which public works have been carried out in the petty States under the Residency for the last 2 or 3 years, it was found that the system in vogue had not proved successful or suitable to existing conditions. The Residency Engineer was allowed to work independently of the Superintendents and Kamdars, with the result that there was constant friction and work was seriously delayed.

After consultation with Colonel Baker, Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General in the Public Works Department, it was arranged that the Residency Engineer, with his staff, should confine his attention to drawing up plans and estimates and to supervising personally, under the special orders of the Resident, any important large work that might be sanctioned. For the completion and maintenance of existing and for all ordinary new works, a separate Public Works Department, consisting of an Overseer, a Sub-Overseer, and a clerk, was organised for each State, working directly under the orders of the Superintendents and Kamdars concerned.

(2) REVIEW BY MAJOR J. L. KAYE, RESIDENT AT INDORE, OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDORE STATE FOR THE YEAR 1907.

1. The Darbar's report records the steady progress of the administration of the State during the past year. The State was spared any recurrence of plague in severe epidemic form and thus escaped one of the disturbing causes which have affected the administration of late years. But in common with so many other parts of India, the unsatisfactory character of last summer's rainfall has troubled the Indore State. In consequence a large portion of the land revenue collections had to be foregone at the close of the year and famine relief operations were then under consideration.

As the financial year of the State commences from the 1st October, the effect of shortage in the crops and realisations of land revenue is not dealt with in the Report under consideration. These subjects will be considered in connection with the administration in 1908.

2. From the figures discussed in Chapter V and tabulated, in Appendix No. XXV, it will be seen that the finances of the State are still in a satisfactory condition. The revenue continues to expand and the reserve fund, though considerably reduced, as was unavoidable, consistent with the proper development of the country and the construction of roads and buildings which were neglected during the late Maharaja's time, is still a substantial sum.

The receipts exhibited an increase of $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees over the income of the preceding year. This increase is to be found under almost all heads of receipt, but mainly under—

	Rs.
Land Revenue	+ 3,43,000
Abkari	+ 1,01,000
Forests	+ 38,000
Miscellaneous	+ 34,000

The larger receipts from land revenue are to be accounted for by the improved revenue system and the collection of arrears.

There were no fresh settlements announced during the year. As before, the only districts in which the new settlement rates had been given currency were those of Nimar and Nemawar. The new settlement in other districts was not announced till after the close of the year.

Though the expansion of the land-revenue income is not directly attributable to the settlement, much virgin soil has come under cultivation, owing to the confidence engendered by the operations of the Settlement Department. The improvement in receipts from the Forest Department is satisfactory evidence of the benefits of stricter conservancy and scientific management of the State forests. More substantial benefit to the revenue may yet be expected from this source, as the staff, which is still chiefly engaged on demarcation and protection of the forests by fire-lines, are able to devote more of their energies to felling, sales, and forest products.

Great progress has been made during the year in improving the excise administration. In this connection the Darbar have availed themselves freely of opportunities of consulting Mr. J. H. Cox, I.C.S., Excise Commissioner in Central India. Income from abkari will probably increase considerably and the financial results of excise administration in 1907 form a satisfactory indication of what may be expected from management on more scientific lines.

3. The actual expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 89,08,717, a sum exceeding the expenditure of 1906 by nearly 10 lakhs of rupees and more than 22 lakhs of rupees in excess of the year's receipts.

The chief item of expenditure was incurred in pushing on the programme of Public Works, on which Rs. 33,50,000 were expended during the year.

As will be seen from the Appendices, this expenditure was divided under the various main heads in the following manner:—

Civil Buildings—	Rs.
Construction	11,29,714
Repairs	1,78,057

Roads—

Construction	14,53,800
Repairs	2,03,541

Irrigation—

Construction	53,466
Repairs	8,652

<i>Miscellaneous Public Improvements</i>	55,906
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<i>Establishment</i>	1,91,460
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<i>Tools, plant, and workshop</i>	70,192
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Little, it will be noticed, was done in increasing sources of irrigation or in repairing the embankments of old tanks, many of which throughout the State are in a damaged condition.

Necessary as such works are as protective measures against drought—especially to ensure a good supply of water to irrigation wells, for irrigation by flow is not popular—the devotion of large sums of money to improving irrigation has not been considered advantageous—

- (a) pending the completion of the hydrographical survey, still in progress, on the completion of which schemes can be devised to serve the best interests of large areas and works can be selected for construction in such order as will ensure facility of supervision; and
- (b) because, owing to the sparsity of population, the demand for irrigation is not great and money devoted thereto will not be remunerative expenditure but protective only.

The recent failure of crops, owing to the insufficient rainfall of last monsoon and consequent necessity for remission of land revenue on unirrigated soils, direct special attention to the advisability of giving this matter early consideration. Now that the building programme is nearing completion, this subject will be more energetically taken up.

Other important items of expenditure are—

	Rs.
(1) Palace	3,80,770
(2) Darbar Offices	2,44,321
(3) Assignments	5,67,133
(4) Land Revenue	7,63,478
(5) Police	4,25,318
(6) Army	6,12,638
(7) Charitable Institutions	2,42,270
(8) Survey and Settlement	2,80,560

There are but slight differences under these heads from expenditure in the preceding year. Remarks are not therefore necessary. I note, however, that expenditure on the army is low, chiefly owing to the strength not having been recruited up to that sanctioned by the re-organisation scheme of 1904, and that survey and settlement were practically completed during the year and this charge on revenue will now disappear from the budget.

The expenditure on—

	Rs.
Courts of Justice	1,54,185
Education	1,28,774
Medical	90,146

though small in comparison, appears generally suitable and is proof that the requirements of the public are not being neglected. The Educational and Medical Schemes are not yet complete, so grants under these heads will probably show a tendency to increase in the future.

4. The revised estimate of receipts for the year amounted only to Rs. 58,92,500; but the actuals gave a considerable balance over ordinary expenditure with—

	Rs.
Receipts	66,75,369
Ordinary expenditure	<u>53,73,077</u>
Balance of receipts over expenditure	13,02,292

With a reserve fund of over two crores of rupees, though only a portion of this is available—one crore is sunk in the Railway Loan made to Government which does not mature till 1971—expenditure need not be cut down to the lowest limit, but the standard of ordinary, or recurring, expenditure is receiving the careful consideration of the Council of Regency, so that a fair margin between income and recurring expenditure in normal years may in future be assured.

5. There are few marked features in the way of administrative reforms during the year to chronicle. The chief of these is undoubtedly the amalgamation of the Holkar State Post Office with the Imperial Post Office. The new offices were not opened during the year under review, but the scheme had received the sanction of the Government of India.

The continued effort to bring the administration of excise, hemp drugs, and opium into line with the systems adopted in British India is evidence of the desire to introduce useful reforms. The Central Distillery System has been applied, with encouraging results, to the district surrounding Indore City and is being extended to other parts of the State during the current year.

The restriction of hemp cultivation, and control of the drug through the agency of a bonded warehouse, has been accepted in principle and will shortly be enforced.

The control of poppy cultivation and manufactured opium is a more difficult matter in a country where the inhabitants have been long accustomed to cultivate opium as they liked and control of the manufactured drug has not been strict. The proposals of the Excise Commissioner in Central India are receiving the careful attention of the Darbar; but it seems probable that the automatic check, which a decreased demand and falling prices must exercise, will operate more effectually than legislation of a restrictive nature.

The revenue settlement was practically completed by the close of the year, but the holding slips and distribution papers were still to be compiled. The settlement, which Mr. H. J. Hoare, I.C.S., has so rapidly pushed to a satisfactory conclusion, deals only with *khalsa* villages. Jagir tracts have, in accordance with the past policy of the State, been left untouched by its operations; the theoretical check on exactions by Jagirdars being emigration of the Jagir tenants to *khalsa* lands which they can obtain on fair terms as to rent. Personally I regret that the rights of tenants in jagir holdings should not have been examined and determined at settlement, my experience being that tyranny and exactions have to be very pronounced before the unfortunate tenant of a jagir holding will desert his house and the land his forefathers may have cultivated before him to seek a new opening.

Similarly the privileged holdings of Inamdar and Istiwardars have not been dealt with. This class is, as a rule, in most impoverished circumstances, the quit-rents to be paid to the State having been fixed in more prosperous times and no revision of these having followed the altered conditions caused by the famine of 1899, the subsequent cholera, the ravages of plague, and consequent depopulation of the villages in their possession.

The opening of a hospital for women at Indore marks the progress of civilisation and, as such, deserves notice.

6. Progress has been steadily maintained in all departments. The statistics of crime and police working show how successful Mr. C. M. Seagrim has been with the training of the re-organised police force. That force is now in a high state of efficiency, serious crime—especially dacoiti and cattle lifting for which Central India held so notorious a reputation—exists but to a small

extent, the control of the hereditary criminal tribes is very complete—Moghias and Sondhias are winning a high reputation as cultivators—and the Criminal Investigation Department does much useful work. Mr. Seagrim has set a very high standard of zealous work, a standard which it is hopeless to expect will be maintained when, on relinquishing his present position, he is succeeded by a native Inspector-General.

The energetic construction of Public Works under the direction of Mr. F. A. A. Cowley shows no diminution and the Darbar recognise in him an able-and industrious head of their Public Works Department.

The Educational Department under Mr. Cholmondeley, Director of State Education, continued to expand. The Holkar College and Indore High School attracted an increased number of students, many new Vernacular Schools were opened in the districts, and special attention was paid to Girls' Schools.

The satisfactory working of the Forest Department under Mr. W. Fraser Biscoe has already been noticed. Opposition to scientific forest administration and conservancy is always experienced, but Mr. Biscoe's tact enables him to carry on his valuable work with a minimum of friction.

The Medical Department under the able guidance of Dr. Tambe, the State Surgeon, continued to do excellent work. Many of the dispensaries in the districts had in-patients' quarters added to them whereby their sphere of usefulness has been extended.

The system of separating the Judiciary from the Executive branch may now be said to have passed from the experimental stage and the scheme by its results to have justified its inception.

Municipal institutions are still in a very elementary phase. In Indore City much has been done in the way of sanitation, in creating open spaces and controlling the erection of new houses; but the guiding hand in such improvements is official, the Municipality is more a name than a working reality.

No alteration was made in the Customs Tariff.

Export duty is confined to cotton—this is to protect the local Mills and Gins—hemp-drugs, opium, untanned leather, sheep and goats only—this latter tax is in reality a registration fee on sales and not strictly export duty. It has been found very useful in dealing with cattle theft cases.

Import duties are now collected in 13 towns only. This differentiation has caused much heart-burning among merchants and has appreciably affected old markets, as rival shops are started in villages in the neighbourhood of many of these 13 towns at which the town-merchants are undersold.

Commercial industry continued to be fostered and many new cotton presses and gins were constructed by private enterprise during the year.

As I did not take over charge of this Residency till the middle of August 1907, I am hardly in a position to express any valuable opinion on the work done during 1907 by the Minister, Rai Bahadur Nanak Chand, C.I.E., and the Members of the Council of Regency, but I am aware of the very high opinion held by my predecessor, Mr. O. V. Bosanquet, I.C.S., of the conscientious and able manner in which they one and all have discharged their duties. This opinion he recorded at length before leaving the post of Resident which he had held during the four years that have witnessed a revolution in the methods of administration in the Indore State. Of the reforms accomplished during the time he presided over the deliberations of the Council of Regency, and of the esteem in which he was held, mention is made in the report.

(3) REVIEW BY MR. C. LATIMER, I.C.S., OFFICIATING POLITICAL AGENT IN BAGHELKHAND, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE BAGHELKHAND AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

1. The States and Estates in the Political charge of the Political Agent are the Treaty State of Rewa; the minor States of Nagod, Baraundha, Maihar, Sohawal, and Kothi; and the Estates of Jaso, Paldeo, Pahra, Taraon, Bhai-saunda, and Kamta Rajaula.

2. Of the total area of the Agency, which amounts to 14,824 square miles, about 13,000 square miles, or 87 per cent. of the whole, belong to Rewa. The

Rewa population of the State is 13,27,385, and the average revenue about 30 lakhs. The State pays no tribute. His Highness Maharaja Sir Venkat Raman Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., was born in July 1876 and succeeded in February 1880. He was invested with ruling powers in 1895, and in 1898 he was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India for the management of famine operations during 1896-97. His Highness is a Rajput of the Baghel branch of the Solanki clan. He has contracted alliances (1) with a daughter of the late Maharaja of Dumraon in Behar; (2) with a sister of His Highness the Raja of Ratlam; and (3) with a daughter of a Parihar Thakur in Oudh. All three Maharanis are living. His Highness' heir, the Maharaj Kumar Gulab Singh, was born in 1903.

The area of the State is 501.4 square miles, and its population 67,092.

Nagod. The average gross revenue for the last five years has been Rs. 181,330. The

State pays no tribute. The Chief, Raja Jadabindra Singh, is a Parihar Rajput of one of the four families known as Agniculas. He was born 53 years ago, and married, as his senior wife, a lady of the family of the Gahawar Raja of Bijaipur in the Mirzapur district. The Raja has no natural heir, but adopted in 1904 Lal Bhargvendra Singh, and the adoption has been recognised by the Government. In May 1894, owing to the incapacity of the Raja, Government assumed the management of the State. The administration is now conducted by a Diwan, appointed by the Agent to the Governor General in Central India, under the general supervision of the Political Agent.

The area of the State is 217 square miles, and its population 15,724. The Baraundha. average revenue may be put at Rs. 20,000.

The State pays no tribute. The present

Chief, Raja Thakur Pershad Singh, succeeded in 1886 and is 60 years of age. He is married to a lady of the Gautam sub-clan of Rajputs. His eldest son and heir, Babu Gaya Pershad, known as the Babu Sahib, was born in 1865. The family are Surja Vansh Rajputs of the Raghubansi clan.

The State has an area of 407 square miles, a population of 63,702, and Maihar. an average revenue of about Rs. 90,000.

It pays no tribute. Raja Raghubir

Singh died leaving 3 sons at the close of the year under report, and was succeeded as Chief by his eldest son Raja Jadubir Singh, who was born in 1864. The Raja has no son. The family allege descent from the Kachwaha Rajputs.

The State has an area of 213 square miles, a population of 37,216, and Sohawal. an average revenue which may be put at

Rs. 1,00,000. Nearly half of this sum is

however alienated to subordinate Thakurs. The State pays no tribute. The present Chief, Bhagwatraj Bahadur Singh, enjoys the title of "Raja" as a personal distinction. He was born about 31 years ago, succeeded in 1899, and has two sons, the elder of whom was born in 1899. The family is an offshoot of the ruling family of Rewa.

The State has an area of 169 square miles, a population of 19,112, and Kothi. an average revenue which may be estimated at about Rs. 37,000. No tribute

is paid. The present Chief, who is of the Rao branch of Baghel Rajputs, is Raja Avadhendra Bahadur Singh. He was born some 41 years ago, succeeded in 1895, and has two sons, of whom the elder, Kuwar Sitaram Pratap Bahadur Singh, is his heir.

Jaso is a small Sanad Estate with an area of 72 square miles, a population of 7,209, and an average revenue for

Jaso. the last five years of Rs. 24,900. No tri-

bute is paid. The present Chief, Diwan Jagatraj Singh, is of a Bundela Rajput family and descended from Chhattar Sal, the founder of the Panna Raj. He was born some 48 years ago and succeeded in May 1889, but with-

drew in 1899 from the management of the Estate, on account of incompetency. The Estate is administered under the general control of the Political Agent by a Kamdar, who is also Diwan of Nagod. The Jagirdar has a son, Kuar Girwar Singh, born 1891, who is now being educated at the Daly College at Indore.

The Jagirs of Paldeo, Pahra, Taraon, and Bhaisaunda are held by Chaubey Brahmans, descendants of the Kiladars or Governors under the Panna

Raj of the famous fort of Kalinger; Kamta Rajaula was granted to their Vakil, by estate a Kayast, in consideration of services rendered by him during the negotiations for the surrender of the fort to the British, and the Jagir is now held by his descendant. No tribute is paid by any of the Jagirs.

The Estate has an area of 28 square miles, a population of 8,598, and an average income of Rs. 28,000. The present Jagirdar, Chaubey Jagatraj, is 42

years of age and holds the title of Rao Bahadur. His eldest son, Chaubey Govind Pershad, who is aged 21 years, manages the Estate under his father's supervision. A younger son is now being educated at Nagod.

The Estate has an area of 27 square miles, a population of 3,535, and an average revenue of Rs. 15,000. The present Jagirdar, Chaubey Radha

Charan, is 51 years old and enjoys the title of Rao Bahadur. He has two sons, the elder of whom, Chaubey Bans Gopal, aged 22 years, has been for the last 2 years on bad terms with his father.

The Estate has an area of 26 square miles, a population of 3,178, and an estimated revenue of Rs. 11,000. The present Jagirdar, Chaubey Brij Gopal,

Taraon, is aged 44 years, and has a son who was born in 1904.

The Estate has an area of 32 square miles, a population of 4,168, and an average revenue which may be put at

Bhaisaunda. Rs. 13,000. The present Jagirdar, Chaubey Chhatarsal Pershad, is 30 years of age; he has no son, but two brothers.

The Estate has an area of 13 square miles, a population of 1,232, and an average revenue of about Rs. 5,000. The present Jagirdar, Rao Ram Pershad,

Kamta Rajaula. is 38 years old; he has one son, Radha Krishna, aged 17 years, who is now being educated at the Kayasts' College at Allahabad.

EVENTS OF NOTE DURING THE YEAR.

3. In June 1907 His Highness the Maharaja married the third of his wives, a lady of a Parihar Thakur family in Rewa.

Rewa. in Oudh, which has provided officers in the State Army, for many years. The period, from June 19th to August 10th 1907, was spent by His Highness in Camp in the Beohari Tehsil of the State, and in January 1908 the Maharaja visited Indore to be present at a meeting of the General Council of the Daly College. The month of February His Highness spent in Bombay where he met His Excellency the Governor and His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda.

In July 1907 Mr. J. H. Cox, I.C.S., Excise Commissioner in Central India, met the Political Agent and representatives of the States and Estates of Baghelkhand at Sutna to discuss excise matters. The result of the Conference was that, excepting Rewa where opium will continue to be grown under the State monopoly system in force, all States and Estates agreed to prohibit the cultivation of opium and hemp drugs and to adopt a uniform system of taxation of these drugs.

In January 1908 the Honourable Colonel H. Daly, C.S.I., C.I.E., Agent to the Governor General in Central India, accompanied by his Public Works Secretary, paid a brief visit to Rewa and inspected famine works at Amarpatan, Moughanj, and elsewhere. Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) C. F. Minehin, D.S.O., Political Agent, toured through the northern part of the State in February 1908 to inspect famine relief works.

In June 1907 the Raja unexpectedly married a girl of an obscure Baghel family living at Bhaji Khera in Nagod. the Panna State, a proceeding which resulted in his receiving a deputation of protest from Baghel Sardars of the Rewa State.

In January 1908 a son was born to Lal Bhargvendra Singh. The Lal Sahib himself continued his studies at the Mayo College at Ajmer throughout the year.

During the year the Chief's third son married a lady of the family of the Raja of Tori Bhagwanpur in the Shahabad district.

Braundha.

On June 23rd 1907 Kuar Girwar Singh was betrothed to a daughter of Musahib Shamsher Singh of Bhapatpur, Jaso. a relative of His Highness the Maharaja of Ajaigarh.

On March 1st, 1908, a son was born to Chaubey Govind Pershad, eldest son and heir of the Jagirdar.

HIGH STATE OFFICIALS.

4. The period of Mr. G. Weatherdon's appointment as State Engineer, Rewa, expired early in the year under report, and his services were replaced by

those of two Divisional Engineers, each controlling a division of the State for Public Works purposes. On October 28th, 1907, Mr. R. M. Williamson, I.F.S., whose services have been lent to the Rewa State by the Government of India, took charge of his duties as Superintendent of State Forests. With these two exceptions there have been no changes in the personnel of high State officials.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

5. For purposes of revenue the State is divided into eight Tehsils, four of which consist of more or less level country north of the Kainour Range, and the remaining four of the hilly

Rewa.
Revenue divisions.

tracts to the south. Cultivation in the latter is comparatively scanty and backward, their revenue demand amounting only to Rs. 2,38,107 as against a demand of Rs. 9,18,084 for the northern Tehsils. In the northern Tehsils regular land settlements are carried out; in the southern the settlements are summary, and no attempt is made to enter into engagements with cultivators individually.

6. During the year regular settlements of the Mouganj and Rewa Tehsils have been proceeded with under the Settlement operations. orders of Kumar Ram Singh, Magistrate.

In the former Tehsil, out of a total of 652 villages only four now remain to be assessed, though a good deal of office work still remains to be done. The progress made has been somewhat slow, but there have been few appeals against assessments. The new demand is Rs. 1,59,841 as against a demand of Rs. 1,28,677 for the expiring settlement, and represents an increase of 24.1 per cent. In the Rewa Tehsil, work has been much delayed; 195 villages were assessed during the year under report, but no less than 1,458 still remain to be assessed. The average increase in the demand is 22.2 per cent. Summary settlement operations were begun early in 1907 in the Beohari Tehsil by Munshi Shiam Kishore, a senior Tehsildar. Forty-seven villages were settled at the close of the year 1906-07 and 403 during the year under report. One hundred and thirty-two villages still remain to be disposed of. The revenue now assessed amounts to Rs. 69,430 as compared with a previous demand of Rs. 50,657 and represents an increase of 37.3 per cent. This large enhancement is said to be accepted cheerfully.

7. The revenue collected during the year amounted to Rs. 7,45,067 as Collections and suspensions. compared with Rs. 11,29,685 for the previous year. The former sum represents 65.5 per cent. of the total demand, the decrease being almost entirely in

the kharif instalment. The formal suspensions made amount only to Rs. 2,93,000.

8. One dispute between the State and the Jubbulpore district was settled amicably during the year. Three disputes remained pending between the State on the one side and the Mandla, Mirzapur, and Allahabad districts respectively on the other.

9. No settlement operations have been in progress during the year.

Nagod.

Land Revenue.

Of a total land revenue demand of Rs. 1,38,282, only Rs. 90,589, or 65 per cent., could be collected. The decrease

was chiefly in the kharif instalment of which, owing to the failure of the monsoon, somewhat less than $\frac{1}{3}$ was collected.

10. Two boundary disputes remained pending throughout the year. One between the State and Sohawal has been referred to the arbitration of the Political Agent; the other, to which Jaso is the other party, is still in the hands of the respective Tehsildars. One case between Nagod and Jaso was settled amicably by the Diwan who is also the Kamdar of Jaso.

11. In Jaso, which is under superintendence, collections amounted to Rs. 14,798 or 78 per cent. of the total demand, which stands at Rs. 18,859.

Boundary disputes between the Jagir and Nagod in the one case and Ajai-garh in the other remained pending during the year.

12. For the bulk of the minor States no figures are available as to the proportion of collections to the land revenue demand. Rents are believed to be largely taken in kind, in which case, of course, no question of remission or suspension arises.

PROTECTION.

Legislation.
Rewa.

13. By "Hidayats" issued during the year the following, among other regulations, were introduced in Rewa :—

- (1) A regulation rendering liable to imprisonment up to 3 years, and fine up to Rs. 500, persons convicted of the slaughter of cows or bullocks or the sale of cows or bullocks for slaughter.
- (2) A regulation embodying the provisions of section 18 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act.
- (3) A pronouncement placing it clearly on record that, except in cases when the right has been specifically conferred on an Ilaquadar, all escheats of immoveable property are to the Darbar.
- (4) The rules as to appeal in Civil cases have been slightly modified in the direction of increasing the opportunities of appeal in cases dealing with immoveable property.

14. The following table shows the Military force of States and Estates in the Agency :—

Name of State and Estate.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Gunners.	Guns.
Rewa	627	2,990	124	57
Nagod	17	...	5	8
Maithar	14	221	21	7
Sohawal	8	34	...	...
Kothi	15	200	...	2
Baraundha	12	85	...	2
Jaso	3	17	...	3
Paldeo	6	100	...	2
Pahra	10	100	...	2
Taraon	3	41	...	...
Bhaisaunda	4	65	...	...
Kamta Rajaula . . . . .	...	15	...	...

The cost of the Army amounted in Rewa to Rs. 5,93,518 as against Rs. 5,71,051 for the previous year. The numbers were somewhat increased owing to the inclusion, for the first time, in the regular troops of certain camel and irreguar troops.

The sowar escort was reduced during the year from 21 to 17 men and a saving of Rs. 374 effected in Nagod.

15. No change has taken place during the year in the organisation and distribution of the Rewa State Police. There are 3 Kotwalis, 15 Thanas, and 35 outposts. The total strength of the force

for the year under report is shown as 2,112, giving an average* of one policeman to every 617 persons and every 6 square miles of territory throughout the State. In this number as well as in the calculations based upon it, there are presumably† included the 1,633 persons shown as the total of Village Police or at any rate such numbers of them as are employed by the Darbar as distinct from subordinate landholders.

The value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 43,480 as against Rs. 57,870 for the previous year. The percentage of recoveries during the year under report was 33·45, an improvement on the very low percentage, 21·41, of the last year, but falling below the figure of 56·73 per cent. for the year 1905-06.

16. The Police force consisted during the year of 143 persons, and cost Rs. 12,024. The ratio of the Police to population is one to every 478 persons,

Nagod.
and to area one to every 3·57 square miles. Village Chaukidars, in addition to the regular Police, were employed at a cost of Rs. 4,712. The value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 4,226 as compared with Rs. 2,703 for the previous year, the increase being mainly due to famine. The percentage of recoveries was 41·4, a somewhat low figure which is however an advance on the percentage of the previous year which amounted to 36·8 only.

17. One constable was reduced in the year under report, and at its close the force consisted of 1 Thanadar, 5 head constables, and 15 constables in Jaso.

addition to 25 Village Chaukidars. 43 criminal offences were committed as compared with 27 in the previous year. Thirty-one offenders were arrested, of whom 15 were committed to the Courts for trial and 11 convicted. The percentage of recoveries to value of property stolen amounted to the miserably low figure of 4·3 as compared with a percentage of 11·05 for the year 1906-07.

18. For the most part only Village Chaukidars, remunerated by the villagers, are employed. Sohawal however maintains a force of 54 regular Police, Kothi a force of 20, and Paldeo of 25. No figures to indicate the state of efficiency reached are available.

19. The number of offences committed during the year was 2,011 against Criminal Justice. 1,813 for the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to famine. Four thousand seven hundred and ninety-five persons were judicially dealt with by original Criminal Courts, as against 4,230 in the previous year. The following table shows the results of criminal proceedings as compared with those for 1906-07:—

	1906-07.	1907-08.
Convicted	32·49	31·83
Acquitted	40·11	47·30
Discharged without trial	16	13·24
Died and escaped	1·3	1·87
Pending	10·10	5·76
	100	100

* Excluding the Police and population of Rewa Town.

† Note.—The strength of the Police was given in last year's Administration Report as 700, and there has been no corresponding increase in this year's expenditure to explain on any other supposition the large apparent increase in the Police force.

Three cases of dākāiti occurred, of which one was accompanied with murder.

Three hundred and seventy-one applications for appeals were preferred, of which 7 were heard by His Highness. The figures below show results in percentages :—

Appeals rejected	1·08
Sentences confirmed and modified	59·34
" reviewed	17
Proceedings quashed	·26
Further inquiries ordered	7
Pending	14·32

20. Two hundred and fifty-five offences were reported as compared with 200 for the previous year. Four hundred Nagod.

and thirty-five persons were brought to trial in original Courts, of whom 29 were discharged, 164 acquitted, 228 convicted, and 14 escaped or were transferred for trial elsewhere. Nine cases on appeal were dealt with by the Diwan.

21. No statistics are available for the other States. Five cases were tried during the year by the Political Other States.

Agent acting as Sessions Judge for all

States in the Agency except Rewa, as against one in the previous year.

22. In the Civil Courts 2,478 suits were filed as against 2,323 in the year 1906-07. The number disposed of Civil Justice.

Rewa.

was 2,545, being an increase of 269 over

the previous year. The bulk of the cases

filed were money claims of small amount.

In four Courts more than 25 per cent. of the suits in the file were pending at the end of the year, and the maximum average duration of suits in the case of one Honorary Magistrate reached the high figure of 167 days. It is however only fair to mention that in the Court of the Deputy Magistrate of Raghurajnagar the average duration of suits was only 14 days.

Three hundred and eighty-one Civil appeals were disposed of as compared with 355 for the previous year.

23. In Nagod 243 Civil cases were disposed of during the year as compared with 384 for the previous year.

Nagod.

The number of institutions were 244 for

1907-08 and 375 for 1906-07. The average duration of suits varied from 3 days in the Assistant Diwan's Court to 120 days in the Court of the Honorary Magistrate, Umarahat.

Forty-four Civil appeals were decided by the Diwan.

24. No figures are available for other States, who all enjoy independent Other States.

Civil jurisdiction.

25. Extradition work has proceeded smoothly both as between different Extradition.

States in the Agency and as between

Native States and British India.

26. Rewa possesses one jail situate at Rewa town. The total charges

Prisons amounted to Rs. 18,581 or an increase of

Rewa. roughly Rs. 3,600 over the preceding

year. The daily average attendance was

296 as against 270 for 1906-07. Jail industries comprise rug and carpet

making, carpentry and blacksmith's work, and printing press as well as extra-

mural labour on gardens and the parade ground. The health of the prisoners

was on the whole good.

27. Admissions for 1907-08 were 108 and for 1906-07, 69. The daily

Nagod.

average attendance was however only 36-

as compared with 45 of the preceding

year's. The jail is well managed and the health of prisoners has been good. Jail industries produced a profit of Rs. 343 exclusive of the printing press which supplied the State offices with forms worth Rs. 734.

28. Sohawal possesses a small jail in which there were 29 prisoners at the end of the year, and there is also a jail at Maihar.

Other States.

At Sutna there is only a lock-up for the detention of prisoners under trial in the Political Agent's Court.

29. Registration has been introduced in Rewa and Nagod only. In Rewa the advantages of registration seem to be becoming known to the people and there

Municipalities.

has been an increase of 25 per cent. over the previous year in the number of documents presented for registration. In Nagod 44 documents, dealing with property of the value of Rs. 2,020, were registered.

30. There are no municipalities in the Agency.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

31. Throughout the Agency the monsoon of 1907 was deficient in amount; nowhere was more than 30 inches registered as against a normal rainfall of Weather and Crops.

some 40 to 50 inches. More serious however than its scantiness was the distribution of the rainfall. Rain did not fall till the end of June; it fell unceasingly till the last few days of August and then stopped abruptly. The results were disastrous. The early rain crops "Sawan" and "Kakun" could not be sown at all, and the later kharif crops, which were widely sown and showed excellent promise in August, withered and died in the drought of September and October. The early cessation of the monsoon had another unfortunate result in contracting largely the area of sowing for the spring harvest; but good rain in January and February ensured a fair outturn from the comparatively small area sown. In Nagod the area sown for the kharif in the year under report amounted to 76,870 bighas as against 84,877 bighas in the previous year, but the produce was only 19,399 maunds as contrasted with 2,17,154 maunds for the harvest of 1906. For the rabi the area sown was 48,615 bighas as against 85,983 bighas for 1907, and the produce 74,602 maunds as compared with 2,85,927 maunds for the previous year. These figures may probably be taken as indicating roughly the ratio of produce to sowing and of sowings to the sowings in the previous year in other parts of the Agency also.

32. The following table indicates the rise in the prices of food grains owing to scarcity, during the year :—

		March 1907.			March 1908.		
		S.	Ch.	to	S.	Ch.	S.
Wheat per rupee	.	11	8		12	8	7 4 ^p
Rice ,,"	.	9	4		11	8	7 8
Gram ,,"	.	16	4		...		9 0
Juar ,,"	.	19	8		23	8	10 0
Kodpa ,,"	.	14	4		16	4	9 0

33. Rewa and Nagod are the only two States in the Agency which maintain organised Forest Departments. Mr. R. M. Williamson, whose services have

been lent to the Rewa Darbar, took over charge of the management of the Nagod forests also in November 1907, under an arrangement by which Nagod contributes to Rewa Rs. 100 per mensem towards the amount of Mr. Williamson's pay.

In Rewa the forest revenue for the year was Rs. 5,24,333, or an increase of Rs. 52,205 over the figures of the previous year; expenditure however, consequent largely on Mr. Williamson's appointment, also increased by Rs. 43,026.

In Nagod the income from sale of forest produce has amounted to Rs. 4,553 as against Rs. 5,386 of the previous year. The market for tea was dull and the income only Rs. 53 against Rs. 10,994 in 1906-07.

34. There are no local manufactures deserving of notice, but there is a considerable import and export trade.
Trade and manufactures.

In normal years the principal exports from Rewa and Nagod, for which States alone any solid information is available, are food grains (rice, wheat, and gram), oil-seeds (til and linseed), ghi, minor forest produce including Mahua, and hides and skins. The chief imports are ordinarily salt, sugar, cotton and woollen fabrics, and manufactured articles. In the year under report, there was but little export of food grains, and the export of til, owing to the large diminution in the outturn, shrank to less than one quarter of the figure for the preceding year. There was however a large increase in the import of food grains stimulated in Rewa by the reduction by one half of import duties on these commodities, and both in Rewa and Nagod the income from the Customs Department showed an increase.

Export and import duties are levied on most of the articles forming main items of trade as below :—

Customs duties.
Rewa.

Rice, six annas	per bullock load of $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds.
Other superior food grains, four annas	
Inferior food grains, three annas	
Oil-seeds, six annas	
Ghi, Rs. 1-8-0	
Sugar, Rs. 1-8-0	
Myrabolams, eight annas	

Hides, three annas a piece

Half the above duties only are levied in the parts of the State served by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

The revenue derived from export and import duties in 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 2,37,739 as against Rs. 2,34,511 for the previous year. These figures, however, include other items, such as octroi dues.

No transit duties are levied in the State.

Nagod and Jaso.	Rice, four annas Other superior food grains, four annas Inferior food grains, three annas Oil-seeds, six annas Ghi, Rs. 1-9 Sugar, Nil.	per bullock load.

The revenue derived in 1907-08 amounted to :—

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
Nagod	1,024	6,656
Jaso	about 3,000	...

Other States. In the other States no import or export duties are levied.

35. In Rewa the expenditure on Public Works fell from Rs. 5,76,615 in the year 1906-07 to Rs. 3,48,229 in the year under report.

Public Works.

Rewa.

The decrease is partly nominal, owing to payment being in arrears, but is accounted for in the main by the transfer to the head "Famine" of such works as were suitable for famine labour, and to the curtailment of all expenditure not immediately necessary.

The allotment for Public Works was Rs. 30,000; it was exceeded by Nagod. Rs. 2,847, in spite of some reduction being effected in establishment. Among

other works, the construction of two causeways was completed, State bandhs repaired, and sluices constructed.

Other States in the Agency maintain no Public Works Department.

36. There has been no change during the year in the postal arrangements in the Agency except that the branch

Post Office.

office at Nagod has been converted into a sub-office, and that a telegraph office was opened at Nagod from April 1st, 1907. The latter has been popular and has justified its existence financially.

Mint.

37. There is no mint in the Agency.

38. Owing to the failure of the autumn crops and the restriction of the sowing of the spring crops to bandhs and irrigable lands, prices of food grains rose General condition of States and People.

very high and there was considerable distress in most parts of the Agency. Rewa however was well prepared and His Highness the Maharaja opened relief works in November 1907. In Nagod also relief works were opened in November, and in most of the minor States, to whom timely advances of money were given by Government, relief works were opened early. Suspensions of revenue and loans for land improvement and gratuitous relief were also granted in all States. With the assistance given, the people were enabled to tide over their difficulties till the mahua and spring crops temporarily relieved the situation. The mahua crop was below the average; but the rabi, owing to timely rain in January and February, turned out a good deal better than was expected. The numbers of persons on relief throughout the Agency reached their highest figure at the end of February. They then dropped steadily from 1,26,423 for the last week of February to 92,418 for the last week of March, In Nagod however the pinch of famine was felt most severely at the end of January. The health of the people was on the whole good; and though several outbreaks of cattle disease were reported, the condition of agricultural stock remained fair throughout the year.

FINANCE.

39. At the beginning of the year under report all States and Estates, except Sohawal, Paldeo, and Jaso, were free from debt, and Sohawal was understood to be on the point of liquidating its outstanding obligations. The strain of famine has however been severely felt throughout the Agency, and all States have received a financial set-back during the year.

40. In Rewa the total receipts amounted to Rs. 27,68,667 as compared with Rs. 28,87,759 for the previous year, and the total expenditure amounted to

Rewa. Rs. 35,34,174 or Rs. 7,65,506 more than the income of the year. The increase in expenditure was chiefly due to famine charges which amounted to Rs. 6,60,860. The year, which began with an opening balance of Rs. 10,22,024, ended with a closing balance of Rs. 2,56,516 only.

41. The gross income amounted to Rs. 1,52,542 as compared with Nagod. Rs. 1,91,190 for the year 1906-07. On the other hand expenditure went up from

Rs. 2,18,938 in 1906-07 to Rs. 2,30,579 in the year under report. The deficit, due chiefly to famine charges and loss of revenue consequent on famine, was met by the sale of Government investments. The year ended with a closing balance of Rs. 45,945.

42. In Jaso the receipts fell from Rs. 23,212 in the previous year to Jaso. Rs. 21,629 in the year under report, and the expenditure exceeded the income by

just over Rs. 12,000. The Jagir was compelled to borrow for famine expenditure. Exclusive of debts incurred in the year under report, the Jagir now owes Rs. 32,871. As only Rs. 5,506 were devoted last year in the liquidation of debts, and Rs. 13,000 were borrowed, the Jagir has, during the year, increased its indebtedness by Rs. 7,500 roughly.

43. Government loans for famine relief were made during the year to Other States. other States as under :—

	Rs.
Sohawal	8,500
Paldeo	3,750
Baraundha	5,500
Pahra	1,500
Kamta Rajaula	700

Exclusive of Government loans, Paldeo and Sohawal were in debt to the extent of some Rs. 11,000 each at the close of the year; and Baraundha and

Pahra report debts, also exclusive of Government loans, of Rs. 13,500 and Rs. 7,000 respectively as outstanding on March 31st, 1908.

VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

44. There were no noticeable outbreaks of epidemic and, owing to the dryness of the year, malarial fever was less prevalent than usual.
Public Health.

45. There are in all 16 hospitals and dispensaries in Rewa, in which Hospitals and Dispensaries. 1,24,749 out-patients and 2,671 in-patients were treated during the year as compared with 1,25,922 out-patients and Rewa.

2,065 in-patients during the year 1906-07. During the year under report a new dysentery ward was completed in the Victoria Hospital at Rewa, a dispensary building was erected at Beohari, and the Mangawan Dispensary was enlarged. At Govindgarh a compound was levelled and fenced for the dispensary and a compounder's house erected, and the operating room at Umaria has been provided with improved arrangements for the supply of hot and cold water. The improvements suggested by the Administrative Medical Officer in Central India, for the Sutna Hospital, were taken up at the end of the year, and the Agency Surgeon was requested to arrange for the supply of a marble floor and glazed tile walls for the operating room.

There is only one Assistant Surgeon employed in the State; he is in charge of the hospital at Umaria. The Agency Surgeon has urged upon the Darbar the necessity of stationing an Assistant Surgeon at the Sutna Bazar Hospital also. This is undoubtedly the most important hospital in the State, all the most serious surgical operations are performed here, and it is desirable that in the absence of the Agency Surgeon there should be a subordinate of the highest qualifications available to supervise the work.

46. There is a hospital at Nagod, and dispensaries are maintained at Nagod. Unehehra, Amatara, and in the Jail at Nagod. The work in the hospital at

Nagod has been on the whole extremely satisfactory. A new building for the Amatara Dispensary was opened, and the construction of an operating room for the Nagod Hospital was begun and nearly completed during the year under report.

47. There is a dispensary at Jaso at which the average daily attendance was 48, and there is also a small dispensary at Maihar. As was noticed in last year's report, the Assistant in charge of the latter is unfortunately deaf.

- 48. Vaccination made good progress during the year. All the States in the Agency, except Maihar, in which it had not been introduced, have shown

every anxiety to assist the Agency Surgeon in his attempts to popularise vaccination, and there is reason to hope that the year under report will prove to be the last in which Maihar will remain inactive in this matter.

EDUCATION.

49. Rewa possesses a High School, with a Vernacular Middle School attached, at Rewa and at Sutna. To the school at the former place there is also attached a Sanscrit school and a Vernacular branch school.

The number of village schools were raised from 32 to 42 during the year under report.

The total number of boys receiving education rose from 2,485 in the previous year to 3,004 in the year under report, and the daily average attendance from 1,671 to 2,260.

There are 4 girls' schools in the State, educating 160 girls.

The expenditure on education was Rs. 25,786.

All education in the State is free.

50. The English school at Nagod, which was reorganised during the year 1906-07, continued to maintain a high standard. Vernacular schools were increased from 13 to 14 in number, and the number of pupils rose from 440 to 625, with an average daily attendance of 440 as against one of 325 in the preceding year. Two new school buildings were completed and one was begun during the year. The expenditure on education was Rs. 8,853.

51. Of other States Jaso possesses 2 schools, Sohawal 4, Baraundha 1, Other States. Kothi 1, and Pahra 1. All these are village schools.

(4) REVIEW BY MAJOR S. F. BAYLEY, POLITICAL AGENT IN BHOPAL, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE BHOPAL AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

1. *Bhopal*.—Her Highness the Begum spent two months of the cold season touring through the south and east districts, inspecting State offices, and enquiring into the progress of settlement work. Her Highness personally conducted the work of revising assessments, and also spoke to the Mustajirs of villages about the advantages of Agricultural Banks, which Her Highness has an idea of starting in Bhopal. The Heir-Apparent was on tour in the southern district and inspected the Schools, Thanaas, Tehsils, and Dispensaries. He also submitted a report to Her Highness the Begum on the progress of reforms indicated by Her Highness during her previous tour. Sahibzada Obaidulla Khan continued to exert great diligence in the command of the State Forces and Imperial Service Troops. The good result of his efforts is apparent from the Inspecting Officer's reports. Sahibzada Hamidulla Khan, aged 14, has made good progress in his studies under Mr. Payne and also in riding and manly games—especially cricket—for which he shows great enthusiasm.

2. The Revenue Minister, Khan Bahadur S. M. Nasiruddin, has rendered valuable assistance to Her Highness in framing new laws and regulations and in re-organising the State offices with the object of simplifying routine and accelerating despatch of business. The Judicial Minister, K. B. Israr Hasan Khan, has exhibited his usual zeal and energy, and the Police have, under his orders, rendered valuable aid to the Revenue Department, in the work of land settlement.

3. Noteworthy events of the year are :—

- (1) The birth of a son to Sahibzada Obaidulla Khan on 27th November 1907. The boy has been named Rashid-uz-Zafar Khan.
- (2) The introduction of a Public Demands Recovery Act whereby the disposal of arrears will be much facilitated.
- (3) The re-organisation of Her Highness the Begum's office which is now divided into regular Departments with a Secretary responsible for each.
- (4) The publication of a set of instructions for guidance of district officers.
- (5) The completion of the Ahmedabad palace and grounds. A numerous official population is now housed in bungalows in the neighbourhood of the new palace. Her Highness has taken special care that due attention should be paid to sanitation and to the avoidance of over crowding in a narrow space.

4. *Rajgarh*.—His Highness Raja Bane Singh was created a K.C.I.E. on 1st January 1908 and attended the Investiture at Calcutta on 28th January 1908, when he was invested with the Insignia of the Order by His Excellency the Viceroy. During his stay at Calcutta His Highness was a guest of the Viceroy at Hastings House. On his return from Calcutta His Highness visited the shrines at Puri.

5. The Heir-Apparent, Kunwar Birindra Singh, is making good progress at the Daly College, Indore. A daughter of His Highness the Raja (married to the Raja of Mandeva, Bombay Presidency), and one sister died during the year.

6. Lala Bisheshar Nath, Diwan of Rajgarh, received the title of Rai Bahadur on 26th June 1907. The Sanad was delivered to him by the Political Agent in a Darbar held at Rajgarh in February 1908.

7. The Agent to the Governor General in Central India visited Rajgarh in November 1907, and formally opened the new bridge across the Newaj river. Colonel Daly also inspected the State institutions at Rajgarh and Biaora and expressed himself well pleased with them. During his stay at Rajgarh the Agent to the Governor General occupied the State Guest House, where a banquet was held in his honour followed by fireworks and illuminations.

8. The settlement operations were completed this year and finally approved by Mr. Hoare in April 1907.

9. The negotiations with Indore for the exchange of 2 Rajgarh villages in the Zirapur district against the Indore half of Talen and neighbouring village of Lataheri were also completed, after negotiations lasting for 4 years. The sanction of the Government of India was received in June 1907, and in August the exchange was carried into effect.

10. *Narsinghgarh*.—His Highness Raja Arjun Singh left the Mayo College, Ajmer, in May 1907, during which month he was married to the 2nd daughter of His Highness the Raja of Sailana (Malwa Agency). His Highness joined the Imperial Cadet Corps in July 1907. His vacations were spent at Sailana, with the exception of 2 weeks at the Dasehra, which he passed at Narsinghgarh. In February 1908 the Raja Sahib unfortunately dislocated his left elbow while playing football with the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun. In March 1908 he resigned the Cadet Corps, with special permission from His Excellency the Viceroy to retain the uniform. He then paid a visit to Sailana and returned with the Rani Sahiba to Narsinghgarh in April. He is now learning the work of administration at Narsinghgarh under the Superintendent of the State, Munshi Durga Sahai. The Raja's health has much improved by his term at Dehra with the Imperial Cadets, but he still suffers from rheumatism.

11. Thakur Lachman Singh of Bagsuri, who was appointed guardian to His Highness, vice Rawat Madho Singh of Batera, has shown much tact and ability and has gained the confidence of His Highness.

12. The Agent to the Governor General in Central India visited Narsinghgarh in April. He is now learning the work of administration at been constructed with the help of a gift of Rs. 20,000 generously made by Her Highness the Rani Bhatyaniji, widow of the late Raja Mahtab Singh, Chief of Narsinghgarh. Colonel Daly also visited the Dowager Ranis in the Narsinghgarh Fort, inspected the State institutions, and witnessed a display of fireworks on the large tank. Colonel Baker, R.E., Superintending Engineer in Central India, who accompanied the Agent to the Governor General, inspected the works in progress on the new palace and guest house and gave the Engineer in charge some valuable advice.

13. Her Highness the Rani Bhatyaniji received the personal title of Maharani on 1st January 1908 in recognition of her liberal donation to the Mahtab Hospital mentioned above.

14. Settlement operations were completed during the year, and the new assessment announced in June and July 1907.

15. *Khilchipur*.—Rao Bahadur Bhawani Singh who had been in bad health for some time past died on 18th January 1908, aged 41 years, leaving one son, aged 10 (he will be 11 on 26th August 1908), named Durjan Sal Singh. The State is now managed under the Political Agent's supervision by Babu Ram Prasad, formerly Accountant of Narsinghgarh. Durjan Sal Singh was betrothed in June 1907 to the third daughter of His Highness the Raja of Sailana. He has been learning English and other subjects with a tutor taken from the teaching staff of the Narsinghgarh High School, since November

1907, and is now (at the time of writing this report) a student in the Daly College, Indore. The late Rao Bahadur attended the marriage of His Highness Raja Arjun Singh of Narsinghgarh in May 1907, and in October 1907 he met the Political Agent at Biaora and discussed agricultural prospects which were then very gloomy.

16. Lala Baijnath Sahai remained at Khilchipur as Diwan until the Rao Bahadur's death, since when he has been styled Assistant Superintendent and has carried on the duties of Magistrate and Civil Judge under the Superintendent, to whom he also gives general assistance in the administration of the State.

17. *Maksudangarh*.—Raja Raghunath Singh died after an attack of pneumonia on 28th May 1907, aged 59 years, leaving an aged mother (adoptive), 2 widows, and a daughter of 12.

18. Babu Kedar Nath Bhargava, Superintendent of Maksudangarh, was appointed Superintendent of Korwai and Pathari in April 1907. He then took three months' privilege leave, during which time his work was carried on by Babu Ram Prasad, Accountant of Narsinghgarh (since appointed Superintendent of Khilchipur). In July 1907 Babu Kedar Nath took up his new appointment at Korwai, relieving the acting Superintendent, Pandit Sham Sunder Sharma, who then took over from Babu Ram Prasad the post of Superintendent of Maksudangarh, which post he still holds.

19. *Suthalia*.—Nothing worthy of note has occurred in this small and insignificant Estate during the year under report, excepting the death of the aged Kamdar, Pandit Nand Lal, who has been succeeded by his son Pandit Daulat Ram.

20. *Korwai*.—The Minor Nawab Sarwar Ali Khan, whose succession was mentioned in last year's report, was installed as successor to the Chiefship in April 1907, the sanction of Government having been received in February 1907. The Political Agent visited Korwai for the purpose of the installation which was carried out with the full customary ceremonial at a Darbar held in the Fort. The Dowager Begum, mother of the young Nawab and sister of the Nawab of Maler Kotla in the Punjab, takes an intelligent interest in the affairs of the State, and loyally refrains from any kind of interference with the administration. An English governess has been obtained for the young Nawab at his mother's request. Pandit Sham Sunder Sharma, Superintendent of Pathari, who had held combined charge of the Korwai and Pathari States since December 1906, was relieved by Babu Kedarnath Bhargava, formerly Superintendent of Maksudangarh, in July 1907, when he in turn became Superintendent of Maksudangarh. The joint administration of Korwai and Pathari, under one Superintendent, was sanctioned by the Agent to the Governor General in Central India at the Political Agent's recommendation, on the resignation of Munshi Inayet Rasul Khan.

21. The State debt of Rs. 2,08,000 to Seths Moolchand Nemichand of Ajmer was extinguished in March 1907, two lakhs having been advanced by the Government of India for that purpose at 4 per cent. The State is now under agreement to repay Government at the rate of Rs. 14,000 per annum.

22. Under the new Superintendent many reforms and improvements are being introduced. The public offices have been put in good order and records sorted and arranged, while the interior of the Fort has been made clean and tidy, and is being placed, as far as means permit, in a state of repair. A revenue survey has been set on foot, to be followed by a settlement; a new Bazar (which will, it is hoped, become a flourishing trade centre) is under construction at the Railway Station of Bareth; the Moghias of Khiria have, for the first time on record, received due attention and proper treatment; the Police officers and Tehsildars have been called on to perform their proper duties; and in every department progress is being made as far as the very limited resources of the State will permit.

23. *Pathari*.—The Nawab and his family still live at Sehore or Bhopal. He is excluded from all share in the administration and forbidden to visit the State.

24. Pandit Sham Sunder Sharma continued to act as Superintendent up to 7th July 1907, when he handed over charge to Babu Kedarnath Bhargava and proceeded to take up the Superintendency of Maksudangarh. There is nothing else worthy of note in connection with this petty State.

25. *Basoda*.—The brother and the eldest son of the Nawab still live at Bhopal and there is no sign of reconciliation between them and the Chief. the Nawab's second son lives at Basoda and the third son is still a student in the Maharaja Scindia's Nobles' School at Gwalior, where he is also said to be learning judicial work under the orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

26. The Nawab toured through his State during the year under report and also visited His Highness the Maharaja Scindia at Gwalior. The road from Bhilsa to Basoda mentioned in last year's report is said to be still under the consideration of the Maharaja Scindia.

27. The new Kamdar, Munshi Wajid Ali Khan, mentioned in last year's report, failed to please the Nawab, and resigned in December 1907. His successor is one Mirza Muhammad Aziz Beg, an old man who has filled some minor appointments in Bhopal, and has also practised as a Vakil in the Bhopal Courts. The result of his appointment is that nearly all the reforms and improvements projected by the late Kamdar have been abandoned or postponed indefinitely, and things are generally as they were before he arrived.

28. *Muhammadgarh*.—The Nawab now lives in Sehore and makes no attempt to interfere in the management of the State, which has been carried on throughout the year by Babu Piare Lal under the Political Agent's supervision. The first Begum has been living at Agra during the year under report. The third Begum died suddenly of snake-bite in July 1907 at Muhammadgarh, and the second Begum and her young son are still entirely neglected by the Nawab who has recently married a fourth wife, inhabitant of Bhopal (parentage unknown) with whom he lives. The three sons of the Nawab by the first Begum live in Sehore with their father and attend the High School where they are making good progress. The State debts have been scheduled and are being paid off.

29. *Minor Estates*.—The following Minor Estates and Tankadars were transferred from the Bhopal to the Gwalior Agency on 19th March 1908.—

1. Daria Kheri.	8. Jhaleria.
2. Dhabla Dhir.	9. Kamalpur.
3. Dhabla Ghosi.	10. Kharsi.
4. Dugri.	11. Patharia.
5. Jabria Bhil and Jabri.	12. Sadan Kheri.
6. Khajuri.	13. Sundarsi.
7. Piplia Nagar.	14. Tappa.

In connection with the above-named places the following facts may be noted :—

- (1) *Daria Kheri*.—Chuttu Lal, one of the joint Kamdars, died during the year and was succeeded by his nephew Shankar Lal.
- (2) *Dhabla Dhir*.—Thakur Ishri Singh was recognised as successor to his father, in July 1907.
- (3) *Dhabla Ghosi*.—Some of the Thakur's debts have been paid off. A serious riot occurred in November 1907 between the Thakur and some Patels of Dhabla Ghosi, in which the Thakur himself was severely injured. The case was investigated by Thagi Inspector Afzal Shah, and made over for trial to the Superintendent of Sehore who convicted several of the Patels and sentenced them to various terms of imprisonment.
- (4) *Jhaleria*.—The Thakurani brought her son, the Minor Thakur, to Sehore, and placed him at the High School, where he is making good progress.

- (5) *Kharsi*.—The Gwalior Darbar has decided that the Thakurani's complaints against the Lumbardar of Neori must be lodged in the Gwalior State Courts.
- (6) *Patharia*.—An account of the Thakur's income has been sent to the Resident at Gwalior, with a view to settlement of the *Nazarana* question, but the result is not known.
- (7) *Tappa*.—The young Thakur still studies at the Sehore High School and makes good progress.

30. The only petty Estate to the south and west of Sehore which now remains in this Agency is Hirapur and that might advantageously be transferred to the Indore Residency as soon as the status of the Rao of Hirapur with regard to the Holkar Darbar has been definitely settled... Hirapur is now entirely cut off from the rest of the Agency and to reach it the Political Agent must march for a long distance either through part of the Gwalior Agency or through the Indore State. The present Rao of Hirapur is a minor, and studies at the Sehore High School; the Estate being still managed by Munshi Ghulam Husain Khan under the supervision of the Political Agent in Bhopal.

2. REVENUE AND ADMINISTRATION.

31. *Bhopal*.—In order to expedite the work of land settlement, two more officers were borrowed from the British Government. One of these, Khan Sahib Ahfazur Rahim, 1st grade Tehsildar, Central Provinces, has done exceptionally good work in the Southern district of Bhopal regarding which a separate report has been submitted. Substantial concessions have been offered to new cultivators to induce them to take up fallow land, undesirable Mustajirs (contractors for villages) have been replaced by others, and a Land Revenue Act has been passed. It has been decided by Her Highness the Begum to adhere to the Mustajiri system throughout the State.

32. The cultivated area has increased since last year by 10,843 bighas. No takkavi was advanced during the year. The revenue demand was Rs. 26,30,000 and the collections were Rs. 24,00,000. The deficiency of Rs. 2,30,000 was partly due to defective rainfall and partly to the unsuitable dates hitherto fixed for payment of revenue instalments. The instalments fixed for the future are two instead of four per year, and will be payable on 15th January and 15th June. The Jagir and Muafi lands of Bhopal are mostly in bad condition owing to neglect and mismanagement of the holders. The re-organisation of village records is to be taken in hand next year. Out of the five Naib-Tehsildars borrowed from Government, four have been returned and one has been lent to Bhopal State for another year.

33. *Rajgarh*.—On the completion of the settlement, Pattas were issued and the Wajib-ul-Arz promulgated. The revenue demand is now Rs. 3,70,625 against the previous estimate of Rs. 3,37,000. The settlement of Jagir lands has now commenced. Out of 189 Jagirdars, 132 have agreed to their lands being settled but 57 are still objecting. Takkavi advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 10,706. The cultivated area has risen from 2,81,950 bighas to 2,93,950 bighas, i.e., by 11,500 bighas.

34. *Narsinghgarh*.—The land settlement is now Ryotwari, having been on the Mustajiri system hitherto. There are now only 5 villages under Mustajirs and these had fallen into such ruinous condition that without the special care of a Mustajir there was no hope of their recovery. The settlement of Jagir lands has not been taken up. Owing to the new assessments, the figure of revenue demand has decreased, but actual collections are expected to be higher than before. The leniency of the assessment is shown by the fact that in spite of unfavourable rainfall the percentage of kharif collections to demand was 95·83, and there was no difficulty in collecting it. The Raja's marriage was made an occasion for remitting Rs. 1,70,900 of irrecoverable arrears. Takkavi advances amounted to Rs. 1,190 and were given only for well construction or repair, and for purchase of poppy seed, not for purchase of bullocks or ordinary seed.

35. *Khilchipur*.—All villages in the State are leased to Mustajirs. There has never been any regular survey or settlement. Two hundred and eighty-six bighas of fallow land were brought under cultivation during the year. Takkavi advances amounted to Rs. 3,825 against Rs. 5,836 in the previous year. The revenue demand for the year ending 31st October 1907 was Rs. 88,665 and the collections were Rs. 86,872. There are no irrigation tanks in Khilchipur, wells only being used. In one of the two Tehsils which make up the State, the land is so poor and stony that only kharif crops are grown, dependent on rainfall.

36. *Maksudangarh*.—The survey and settlement operations are still in progress and are being carried out by a staff taken on from Rajgarh and supervised by the Rajgarh Officer, Pandit Jisukh Ram. It was expected that work in 90 villages would have been completed by the end of April 1908. Two small boundary disputes have arisen out of the survey and require settlement. One is internal with the Nasirpur Jagir and one external with the Garha Estate of the Gwalior Agency. The revenue collections fell short of the demand by Rs. 677 (99 current, 578 arrears); out of this sum Rs. 460 were due from Moghias (84 current, 376 arrears). The area cultivated for rabi crops was less by 3,492 bighas than in the year previous owing to early cessation of rainfall. The irrigated area was the same as last year. Rs. 395 were advanced for repair of wells. The survey of certain *nullas* in view of constructing irrigation works, which was recommended by Mr. Marsh during his tour of 1906-07, was commenced in 1907, and Rs. 633 were expended thereon, but owing to the misconduct of the surveyor sent by Mr. Marsh it was necessary to discharge him, and no progress has since been made with the work.

37. In the Nasirpur Jagir settlement operations are proceeding similar to those in the Maksudangarh Estate. Soil classification will shortly be commenced throughout.

38. *Suthalia*.—In spite of the adverse conditions of rainfall which affected most places throughout this Agency, the revenue collections in Suthalia were exceptionally good. The receipts amounted to Rs. 26,760, being Rs. 360 in excess of the average for the previous five years. Nevertheless the Thakur found himself compelled, owing to short rainfall and high prices, to abandon for the time being the idea of undertaking a survey of his Estate.

39. Experiments were made with Egyptian and American cotton seed, but without success. Irrigation from wells is steadily increasing. Takkavi to the amount of Rs. 675 was advanced (being Rs. 200 more than in the previous year). The number of cattle decreased from 8,335 to 7,990. This was due to epidemics and to scarcity of fodder.

40. *Korwai*.—The revenue demand was less than that of the preceding year (Rs. 29,650 against Rs. 30,571), but collections were greater (Rs. 37,050 against Rs. 28,334). takkavi advances to ordinary cultivators amounted to Rs. 1,805 and Rs. 1,222 were advanced to Moghias, total Rs. 3,027. The cultivated area was increased by 960 bighas. There is no irrigated land in Korwai, the people being prejudiced against irrigation.

41. Korwai has never yet had a proper revenue settlement, but a survey has now been commenced, the staff having been taken on from Rajgarh, where settlement operations recently came to an end.

42. *Pathari*.—The revenue demand and collections were both less than in the previous year (demand Rs. 5,667 against Rs. 6,365 and collections Rs. 6,047 against Rs. 6,366). Rs. 1,215 were advanced as takkavi to ordinary cultivators and Rs. 311 to Moghias, total Rs. 1,526. There was no increase in the cultivated area. There is no irrigated area in Pathari, as the people, like those of Korwai, are adverse to irrigation. No new measures affecting the revenue administration were introduced.

43. *Basoda*.—The late Kamdar had induced the Nawab to sanction a reduction in the number of Patwaris, to pay them in cash instead of in kind, and to employ them in their proper work as surveyors and recorders of agricultural statistics, instead of (as at present) allowing the Tehsildars to make use of them as collectors of revenue. Since the arrival of the present Kamdar the Nawab has, however, abandoned these schemes. The Patwaris are again

paid by grant of free land and by Patwari haqs, and they are again employed to collect revenue for the Tehsildars. The idea of a village survey entertained by the late Kamdar has also been given up or postponed. The Nawab has framed rules for the favourable treatment of cultivators who break up fallow land, and for the compensation of outgoing tenants who have effected improvements. The amount of fallow land reclaimed during the year was 150 bighas. The revenue demand for the year was Rs. 18,475 and collections were Rs. 18,882. Rs. 650 were advanced as takkavi. The Nawab has opened an agricultural bank with his own money, capital Rs. 2,000 (to be hereafter increased). Loans are issued to cultivators at 3 per cent. The interest is to be spent on works useful to cultivators.

44. *Muhammadgarh*.—The revenue demand was Rs. 13,220 which shows an increase of Rs. 6,770 during the last two years. Takkavi to the value of Rs. 1,140 was advanced in kind by Banias on the Kamdar's guarantee, and Rs. 513 for purchase of bullocks were advanced from the Treasury in cash. A large area of waste land has been reclaimed by means of field bunds, and taken under cultivation during the year.

3. PROTECTION AND LEGISLATION.

45. *Bhopal*.—Several new Acts were passed by Her Highness the Begum during the year :—

1. Rules for the assessment of tax on trades and professions.
2. Rules under the Municipal Act.
3. Rules regarding accounts in public offices.
4. Treasury Rules.
5. Rules for the office of the Chief Accountant.
6. Excise Act.
7. Rent Act.
8. Revenue Act.
9. Travelling Allowance Rules.
10. Leave Rules.
11. Gambling Act.
12. Rules relating to the expenses on special occasions.
13. Reformatory Act.
14. Hemp Drugs Act.
15. Public Demands Recovery Act.
16. Act amending the Revenue Act.
17. Rules for wholesale purchase and vend of opium.
18. Rules regarding contract for retail sale of opium.

These Acts were prepared by the "Majlis-i-Mashwara" (Advisory Council) which received valuable assistance from the Moinul Muham (Revenue Minister).

46. *Military*.—The Imperial Service Cavalry have made marked progress in musketry and signalling. They carried off several prizes at the Mhow Assault-at-Arms last year. Two non-commissioned officers have been sent to the Janjira State as instructors in signalling. One non-commissioned officer has been sent to Roorki to learn survey work and one to the Lahore Veterinary College. The regimental team won the Jhansi Polo Cup in March 1908.

47. Many improvements have been effected in the Local Cavalry and Body Guard. The Body Guard officers are in future to live near their lines, where bungalows are being built for them. Some picked non-commissioned officers from the Victoria Lancers have been appointed to Jemadarships in the Cavalry. The Infantry has received new equipment and a new quarter guard has been built, the old guard house being now used as a Military Hospital.

48. *Police*.—Munshi Ali Hasan Khan, formerly an Inspector in the United Provinces Police, has been appointed Muntazim, vice Siddiq Ahmed resigned. The percentage of convictions is higher than it was last year (65 against 58), but the percentage of property recovered to property stolen is

lower (44 against 46); 6 dákaitis were reported, of which 5 cases were sent up for trial. Convictions were secured in 2 cases and 3 are still under enquiry. Seven murders came under cognisance, of which 4 were successfully investigated and in 3 cases convictions were secured. One case is still under trial. The Mounted Police are still under the command of Chief Inspector Mumtaz Husain, pensioned Resaldar of the 6th King Edward's Own Cavalry. The Sowars, who only carry dáks, etc., have now been formed into a body apart from those who really act as Mounted Police.

49. *Crimes*.—The Chief Court of the State is the Ijlas-i-Kamil composed of 5 members with Her Highness the Begum as President. The Vice-President is Mirza Kalb Ali Beg, B.A. The Nasirul Muham (Judicial Minister) is District and Sessions Judge and supervises all the Lower Courts (those of Nazims, Tehsildars, City Judges, and Magistrates, etc.).

50. *Jails*.—Prisoners sentenced to 2 months' imprisonment or less are kept in the district jails at head-quarters of Nizamats, all others in the Central Jail at Bhopal. The total expenditure on district jails rose from Rs. 29,172 to Rs. 31,482, owing to the high price of grain. The expenditure on the Central Jail rose from Rs. 27,706 to Rs. 29,888. The daily average of prisoners in the Central Jail was 363. There were 31 deaths during the year. Her Highness the Begum has issued strict orders that special attention should be paid to the feeding and sanitation of the Central Jail, which was managed during the year under report by Mr. D. Cook, State Engineer. The earnings of the Central Jail have increased during the year. Carpets to the value of Rs. 4,512 were manufactured, whereas last year the value of carpets was only Rs. 2,478. The improvement is due to the introduction of a shuttle machine. The value of tiles manufactured has slightly decreased from Rs. 3,377 to Rs. 3,362.

51. *Stamps*.—A new design of stamped paper (foolscap size) has been ordered from John Dickenson and Co., at a cost of Rs. 3,767. Stamps are now supplied to licensed vendors from the head-quarters of Tehsils instead of only at Bhopal as formerly.

52. *Municipality*.—The income of the Bhopal Municipality was Rs. 13,000 whereas the expenditure was Rs. 85,000. The State Treasury provided the balance. The excess in expenditure was chiefly due to the measures taken for improving existing roads in Bhopal City and opening new ones, for the purchase of traction engines and carts in order to remove filth and sweepings, and for the acquisition of buildings which it was necessary to demolish while constructing new roads. A new market place is in course of construction near the Moti Masjid in Bhopal City.

53. *Taxes*.—The income-tax introduced 3 years ago by the late Revenue Minister, Munshi Nizamuddin Hasan, has been abolished. House tax is now levied only on houses which are let out for rent.

54. *Rajgarh—Legislation*.—A set of cattle trespass rules has been issued.

55. *Courts*.—Maharaj Jagat Singh, Judicial Commissioner of Rajgarh, resigned his appointment during the year and the Tehsildar of Rajgarh was appointed to officiate temporarily as Judicial Commissioner. The Nazim (1st class Magistrate) of Biaora also resigned and a successor was appointed. The Karanwas Tehsil has been abolished and amalgamated in the Sudder Tehsil of Rajgarh. The number of 2nd class Magistrates and of Munsifs has, therefore, been reduced by one in each case.

56. *Police*.—The Police, under Munshi Duni Chand (Deputy Inspector, Thagi Department) as Muntazim, have worked well. Convictions were obtained in 70·81 per cent. of the cases sent up for trial. Recoveries of stolen property amounted to 90 per cent. of the property stolen.

57. The management of the Moghia colony has now been entrusted to the Muntazim of Police with a Sub-Inspector told off to act as Munsarim of Moghias. It is hoped that an improvement in the condition and behaviour of the Moghias will result from this change.

58. *Jail*.—The Rajgarh Jail makes steady progress under the management of the Naib Diwan Pandit Ganga Ram. A hand-loom was introduced

from Baroda and a weaver was sent to Baroda to learn how to work the loom so that the prisoners in the Jail might be instructed.

59. *Narsinghgarh—Police.*—A new grade of Police officer has been created, viz., that of Circle Inspector. These officers, two in number, are required to be perpetually on tour in their circles inspecting Thanas and investigating cases. Their appointment was thought necessary because the Muntazim (Munshi Chhajju Singh, Deputy Inspector, Thagi Department) found himself unable to leave his office at Narsinghgarh for the purpose of inspecting or investigating. The period of deputation to Narsinghgarh of Munshi Chhajju Singh will shortly expire and it is hoped that under a more energetic officer the work of the Narsinghgarh Police which (judging from cases sent up to the Sessions Court) is extremely unsatisfactory, will be greatly improved. Crime appears to have increased in Narsinghgarh during the last year.

60. It was settled during the year that the Moghia colony of Kurawar, which has always given unsatisfactory results than the other colonies in Narsinghgarh State, should be moved to Hoolkheri half of which is already occupied by Moghias and half by ordinary cultivators. The latter will now be provided for elsewhere. The Moghias of Narsinghgarh are on the whole more prosperous and better behaved than any others in the Agency except those in Maksudangarh.

61. *Courts.*—The Court of the City Magistrate, Narsinghgarh, has been abolished. The Nazim of Narsinghgarh now takes all Criminal cases in the town limits, and a newly appointed Court (that of the Civil Judge) takes all Civil cases. The Civil Judge also sits periodically at Khujner (the chief Tehsil town of the State) to hear mofussil cases.

62. *Jail.*—The old warden of the Narsinghgarh Jail having been superannuated, a man trained in the Bikaner Jail was brought in his place, and has effected many improvements in jail industries. The receipts from these were Rs. 257 against Rs. 122 in the previous year. A female warden has also been appointed for the woman's ward.

63. *Municipal.*—A new Municipal Committee has been formed for the town of Narsinghgarh, as the working of the old one proved unsatisfactory. The new Committee includes the Civil Judge as President, 4 official members, and 2 non-officials. New rules have been framed and the town has been divided into wards with a member of the Committee in charge of each. The Conservancy Staff has been increased, and the President of the Committee has been invested with 2nd class Magisterial powers for the trial of offences against Municipal Rules.

64. *Khilchipur—Police.*—The pay of the Police force was slightly raised by the late Rao Bahadur before his death at an additional cost of Rs. 645 per annum. Since the State came under management, many members of the force who were useless through old age or extreme youth or physical incapacity have been removed and suitable men enlisted in their places. The State Infantry have also been incorporated in the Police force as armed police. The work of the Police during the year under report was unsatisfactory. The percentage of property recovered to property stolen was only 42.62 per cent.

65. The late Rao Bahadur had also paid some attention to the condition of the Khilchipur Moghias shortly before his death. Pattas had been sanctioned for each Moghia, also takkavi for building huts and making carts in which to take their grain to market. All arrears of takkavi, excepting sums advanced for purchase of bullocks, had been struck off. The condition of the Khilchipur Moghias is however still very bad and the Superintendent is considering how to improve it, and is taking advice on this point from Babu Kedar Nath, Superintendent of Korwai and Pathari, whose Moghia management was such a conspicuous success in Maksudangarh.

66. Owing to the negligence of the Tehsildars no cattle were branded in Khilchipur during the year.

67. *Courts.*—The powers of the State Courts are now as follows. (They were reformed after the death of the Rao Bahadur). The Superintendent exercises (with certain limitations) the powers of a District Magistrate in Criminal cases and hears Civil cases of value Rs. 1,000. He hears appeals in

both Civil and Criminal cases from the decisions of the Assistant Superintendent. The Assistant Superintendent (Diwan to the late Rao Bahadur) exercises the powers of a 1st class Magistrate in Criminal cases with powers to try summarily, and hears Civil cases of value not over Rs. 1,000. Appeals from the Superintendent and Sessions cases are heard by the Political Agent. The Courts of the Mohtamim Faujdari and Mohtamim Diwani have been abolished and criminal powers have been entirely taken away from the Tehsildars (this latter measure was carried out by the Diwan during the lifetime of the Rao Bahadur). The work of the Civil Courts was very heavy during the end of 1907, because of the introduction of a Law of Limitation with effect from 31st January 1908. Creditors naturally brought as many suits as possible before that date.

68. *Jails*.—The building used as a jail in the time of the late Chief being totally unsuitable for that purpose, a new building was commenced by the Rao Bahadur last year. After his death however it was decided that owing to its position this building would not do for a jail, and it is now being completed so as to form a Police Station and lock-up. When funds permit and the State Overseer has leisure, a new jail will be built elsewhere, meanwhile prisoners sentenced for one month or less are kept in the old jail, and all others are sent to Narsinghgarh.

69. *Municipal*.—The Native Doctor now receives an allowance of Rs. 5 per mensem for looking after the conservancy of Khilchipur town. The total expenditure on conservancy was Rs. 352 against Rs. 132 during the past year.

70. *Maksudangarh*.—The Superintendent has recently been invested with power to try summarily offences falling under sections 323, 379, and 504, Indian Penal Code.

71. The Moghia colony still compares favourably with all others in this Agency. Out of a revenue demand of Rs. 441, Rs. 407 were collected from them. They have however only refunded Rs. 76 out of Rs. 472 due from them for takkavi loans.

72. *Súthalia*.—The "Inspector" was dismissed for misconduct and his brother, formerly "Munsarim Diwani," was appointed in his place. The appointments of the so-called Munsarim Adalat Faujdari and Munsarim Adalat Diwani (these officials were really only Munshis who put up cases to the Thakur for orders) have been abolished, and the Thakur now hears cases himself from the commencement with the former Munsarim Faujdari as Judicial Clerk. The Court language of the Jagir has been changed from Urdu to Hindi. The new jail building has not yet been commenced. A new Police Thana is under construction and nearly complete. One official has been sent to Bombay to study law, and another to Narsinghgarh to learn Finger Impression work.

73. *Korwai*.—The pay of the Police is very low and as soon as the State can afford to raise it this will be done. At present Constables only draw from Rs. 3 to Rs 5 per mensem, Daffedars Rs. 6, Thanadars Rs. 20, while a Sowar has to keep himself and his horse on Rs. 12 per mensem. The Police have no uniforms and the Thanas are in bad repair. There are many old men in the force who should be pensioned. All this will be remedied as funds permit.

74. The Moghias of Korwai are a great burden to the State. They pay no revenue and on the average they receive as takkavi Rs. 1,150 per annum, out of which the average repayment does not exceed Rs. 400. During the past year steps have been taken to restrain the thieving propensities of the Sanorias of Sirnota village. These men never used to steal in Korwai, but every year they went out on a thieving expedition through the Saugor district and in other States. They commit day-light thefts only. Only a few of them are real Sanorias (a sub-caste of Brahmans from Bundelkhand), but all who have joined the band for thieving purposes are called Sanorias irrespective of caste. They do not however eat with each other unless of the same caste. Rules for their treatment and supervision have been adopted similar to those in the Moghia Manual, but as the Sanorias are all natural cultivators there

is no need for the State to give them land on special rates, or takkavi for grain and bullocks.

75. The responsibility for cattle branding has been transferred from the Tehsildars to the Police with good results. 17,689 animals were branded against 4,876 in the previous year.

76. The jail is still located in the Fort, but it is hoped to commence a proper jail building next year.

77. *Pathari*.—In Pathari also, owing to poverty, the Police arrangements are very defective. There are no village Police. Recoveries of stolen property only amounted to 13 per cent. of the property stolen, which is a very poor result.

78. The Pathari Moghias are fairly well behaved. To improve their condition, the local Mustajir has been induced to advance seed grain and the bed of a tank has been leased to them for growing wheat. There is a Sanoria colony in Pathari, numbering 27 persons, who are being dealt with similar to those of Korwai.

79. *Basoda*.—*Police*.—There are 30 Police Sepoys and 22 Village Chaukidars, not 15 and 24 as stated in last year's report. A new Sub-Inspector of Police has been appointed and uniforms have been supplied to the force. A new jail has been constructed during the year.

80. *Municipal*.—The arrangements for instituting a Municipal Committee are not yet complete, but Rs. 10 per mensem is now subscribed by the town's folk and four sweepers are employed on conservancy work. The scheme proposed by the late Kamdar for diverting from the town the drainage of the hill above it has been abandoned on account of expense.

81. *Muhammadgarh*.—The strength of the Police has been increased by 4 sepoys and a new Thanadar has been appointed, the old Thanadar having been reduced for misconduct to Jamadar (Head Constable).

4. PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

82. *Bhopal—Rainfall and Crops*.—The rainfall of 1907 was late in beginning and defective in quantity. It commenced late in July and ceased early in September. The amount was 30.52 against 40.24 in the previous year. Nevertheless the total result of the harvests was not seriously affected, though at certain times much anxiety was felt lest both the kharif and rabi crops should fail.

83. *Epidemics (Plague)*.—Plague was severe both in Bhopal and also in Sehore and throughout the State, for the greater part of the year. Disinfection and evacuation were energetically practised, special funds were allotted, and a special staff employed. Inoculation gained much in popularity from the personal example set by Her Highness the Begum.

84. *Prices and Wages*.—Prices rose in Bhopal not so much from internal scarcity as through the demand from without. The grass supply was seriously restricted by the early cessation of rainfall and this, coupled with unusually large exports, greatly raised the price of fodder throughout the State. Wages were very high in Bhopal City owing to the large demand for labourers on State and Railway works, but they were not unusually high in the districts.

85. *Forests*.—The State Forest Department has worked well and the reforms introduced by Mr. Narsingh Rao, State Forest Officer, are bearing good fruit. Attempts are being made to enlist the co-operation of Jagirdars in forest conservation. Grazing areas are no longer let out to contractors but fees are levied by the State and Rawannas issued, good for one year. The forest income has risen to Rs. 1,71,837, against Rs. 71,069 for the previous year. New and improved rules have been framed for the acquisition by cultivators of timber for agricultural use.

86. *Commerce and Industry*.—In spite of the efforts of Her Highness the Begum, this remains in a very backward state, and the people are extremely apathetic. Classes to teach boot-making and tailoring have been added to the Sulemania Boys' School at Bhopal.

87. *Customs*.—The pay of the staff has been increased, and Octroi posts have been put in repair. The Superintendent of Customs has received power to appoint and dismiss his subordinates. Owing to certain duties having been reduced, the income from customs fell from Rs. 2,98,000 to Rs. 2,69,000. The measures undertaken for forming the cotton ginning factory into a Company are still incomplete.

88. *Excise*.—Seth Dorabji of Bombay holds the Abkari contract for 5 years. Liquor exported from the Central Depôt, which has been instituted at Bhopal, is now taxed (apart from what the contractor pays to the State) at 3 pies per gallon, excepting the supply for Sehore Cantonment which goes free and is taxed at Sehore. The additional income from this taxation amounted during the year to Rs. 1,477. The neutral zone system has been adopted on the frontiers of the Bhopal State. Minimum retail prices have been fixed for each kind of liquor in order to check the growth of consumption. The total income from Abkari amounted to Rs. 79,811. New excise regulations have been introduced and have placed the department on a better footing throughout. Regulations have also been issued for the sale of drugs. One godown in Bhopal and one at the head-quarters of each district have been instituted, whence only drugs can be obtained for retail sale. The duty charged on drugs, leaving these godowns, is Re. 1 per seer on ganja and charas, and annas 8 per seer on bhang and majum. The total income from drugs amounted to Rs. 92,621 against Rs. 62,733 for the previous year. All these reforms were introduced by the advice of Mr. Cox, Excise Commissioner in Central India.

89. *Public Works*.—The roads in Bhopal City are being made wider and new roads are being opened out. It is proposed to construct numerous *pacca* roads radiating from the head-quarters of each district. Two—*i.e.*, from Sehore to Ichhawar and from Hirania to Kaliakheri—are now under construction.

90. *Post Office*.—The expenditure is put down as Rs. 13,955 and the income as Rs. 63,573, showing a profit of approximately Rs. 49,500. This however is fictitious, as the figures of income include value of stamps which would have been used on State daks had these not been carried free. Eliminating this item, the result is a deficit of Rs. 12,000, or in other words, the State paid Rs. 12,000 for the privilege of having its own Post Office. (The State Post Offices have now been amalgamated in the Imperial Post Office while I was writing this report.)

91. *General condition*.—The general condition of the people was good, but cattle suffered to some extent from cattle disease.

92. *Telephone*.—The State telephone system at Bhopal City introduced last year now works well and has proved a great convenience to the administration.

93. *Rajgarh—Rainfall and Crops*.—The rainfall of 1907 was deficient in quantity and untimely. It commenced very late in June, was excessive in July and August, and ceased entirely from September to January 1908. The total amount was 32.45 against 40 inches in the previous year. Excessive rain in August caused destructive floods. The river Newaj rose 20 feet above the usual level and did great damage to villages on the banks. Rajgarh had 8.74 inches of rain in one day, about 15th August. This excessive rainfall ruined the Makka crop, which only produced 3 annas in the rupee, while the early cessation of rain damaged the cotton and jowar. The cotton crop was about 8 annas and jowar crop 10 annas in the rupee. Irrigated lands produced good crops, because the heavy rain in July filled all the tanks and wells to the brim. The opium crop was good but the price obtainable for opium very low. Prices of grains were high. Fodder, though scarce, was just enough for requirements. Wages were high in the early portion of the year but low latterly.

94. *Forests*.—A qualified Forest Ranger has been engaged by the Darbar and a pupil has been sent to the Central Provinces Training School at Bala-ghat. Plantations of bamboo and various useful timber trees are being started and the propagation of *lac* has been commenced in the Kotra jungles (south-east of Narsinghgarh).

95. *Trade.*—The returns show that both in exports and imports steady progress is being made.

96. *Excise.*—The Darbar has, on the advice of Mr. Cox, introduced various reforms (*i.e.*, the sale by auction of circle contracts) which have resulted in an increase of excise income from Rs. 2,600 to Rs. 5,350. The cultivation of ganja and bhang has experimentally been stopped for 3 years and arrangements will be made to import these drugs.

97. *Public Works.*—Numerous public works were completed during the year including the Newaj bridge at Rajgarh and the Rajgarh Kothi at Indore.

98. *Post Office.*—A postal tonga service between Shujalpur, Biasra, and Rajgarh was instituted during the year by the Deputy Postmaster General, Rajputana and Central India, but owing to irregularity and unpunctuality it has failed to give any satisfaction to the Darbar.

99. *General condition.*—The general condition of the people was good. One sign of prosperity is that the construction by cultivators of wells and "Ories" (water reservoirs by banks of streams) is on the increase.

100. *Narsinghgarh—Rainfall and Crops.*—The rainfall was good in quantity but untimely. In fact nearly the whole amount fell between the middle of July and the end of August. On the 16th August, Narsinghgarh town received $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 2 hours and on the 22nd August $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches fell at Khujner. This exceptional fall caused a severe flood. The flood-gates of the bridge over the *nulla* at Khujner were jammed with débris and could not be opened and finally the roadway was breached in several places, thus allowing the water to escape. The kharif crops, especially makka and cotton, suffered from excessive rainfall. The jowar and the rabi crops suffered also, but to a less extent. The rabi however would have dried up had not rain fallen on 10th January, after 4 rainless months. Irrigated crops were not affected as the heavy rain of July and August filled all the wells and tanks. The opium crop in Narsinghgarh Tehsil was injured by hail which fell in March. As regards the cultivators, any shortness in output of crops was more than made up by the rise in prices. Wages of labour were also high throughout the year. The grass and fodder crops were much damaged by the early cessation of rain.

101. *Forests.*—The propagation of Kusumi lac has been introduced with some success.

102. *Trade.*—The outturn of the Pachora Cotton Ginning Factory was less by 4,000 maunds than in the previous year (28,000 maunds against 32,000 maunds). The Khujner Factory has not yet been started.

103. *Customs.*—The collections from the customs were higher than usual, which shows that the condition of trade was favourable.

104. *Public Works.*—The following important works are still in progress :—

- (1) The Mahtab Hospital at Narsinghgarh.
- (2) The new Palace of His Highness the Raja at Narsinghgarh.
- (3) The Narsinghgarh Guest House.
- (4) The Hospital at Khujner.

Two irrigation works—costing one Rs. 4,460 and the other Rs. 240—(a masonry bund across the Kotri *nulla* and repairs to a small bund at Narsinghgarh) were undertaken last year at the advice of Mr. H. Marsh, C.I.E., but neither was entirely successful. The tank emptied itself by leakage as usual, and the water held up in the Kotri *nulla* escaped through cracks in the bottom and sides, and joined the *nulla* again below the bund. Further supplementary work on the *nulla* has now been undertaken by Mr. Marsh's advice.

105. *General condition.*—The general condition of the people was good and there were no epidemics, but cattle disease (cow-pox) caused much mortality among live stock.

106. Khilchipur.—Rainfall and Crops.—The rainfall of 1907 was normal in quantity but badly distributed. The total amount was 33.07 against 33.13 in the previous year. The rain commenced in the middle of July, fell heavily till end of August, and then ceased entirely until the 9th January 1908. The kharif crops on wet lands were damaged by excessive rain and those on dry lands by early cessation. The area of rabi sowings was much contracted, wheat area by 10 per cent. and opium area by 30 per cent. Both crops suffered from drought, but were saved from destruction by the rain of 9th January 1908. The average outturn of both wheat and opium was 8 annas in the rupee. Cultivators were compensated by high prices for short crops. The prices of grain in March 1908 were on the average 50 per cent. above those of March 1907. Wages were also high.

107. Forests.—There is no valuable timber in the Khilehipur State, but the State obtains an income of Rs. 304 from grazing fees.

108. Commerce and Industry.—All restrictions on the export of grain were removed by the Rao Bahadur shortly before his death. The Khilehipur Ginning Factory continues to flourish but the Darbar has no share in its prosperity, the late Rao having given the proprietors a 15 years' agreement, in return for a fixed royalty of 4 gold Mohurs per annum. Standard weights have been introduced into Khilehipur since June 1907, before which date the Ujjain seer (which was equal to 76½ Government rupees in weight) was used.

109. Public Works.—Towards the close of the year, i.e., after the death of the Rao Bahadur, a scheme of Public Works (roads and buildings) was initiated and a trained Overseer has recently been engaged. Superfluous works on the City Palace have been postponed; a police station is in course of construction on the site selected by the late Chief for a jail, and the Bijaigarh Kothi (garden house of late Chief) is being converted into a residence for the Superintendent with Courts and offices attached and a set of rooms for Lalji Durjan Sal Singh when he comes to Khilchipur. Steps are also being taken to construct a *pacca* road between Khilchipur and Rajgarh. It is hoped that much progress in Public Works will be shown in next year's report. During the year under report the total expenditure on Public Works was Rs. 770.

110. Post Office.—Owing to the unsatisfactory working of the Shujalpur-Rajgarh Tonga Service (instituted by the Deputy Postmaster General, Rajputana and Central India), the mails for Khilchipur were very irregular. On one occasion in November 1907 no letters reached the Khilehipur Post Office for 3 days, and on another occasion none came for two days. The want of a Telegraph Office is greatly felt by the mercantile classes of Khilchipur and also by the administration, and it is hoped that one will shortly be instituted.

111. General condition.—The general health of the people was good and there were no epidemics; cattle suffered severely from rinderpest and other diseases.

112. Maksudangarh.—Rainfall and Crops.—The rainfall of 1907 began late in July and ceased at the end of August. Out of a total fall of 24.07 inches, 18.52 inches fell in August. The jowar crop being sown on wet lands was saved by moisture in the soil and gave 12 annas in the rupee. Rabi sowings were very scanty. Three thousand four hundred and ninety-two bighas which had been prepared for rabi could not be sown. Light rain fell in January and February and brought the total rainfall up to 24.09 against 50 inches in 1906-07 and an average of 31.12 for the past 5 years. Prices became high towards the end of the year, but wages remained low and there was always abundance of labour.

113. Forests.—Attention is being paid to forest conservancy. Promiscuous fellings have been stopped. The Forest Officer of Narsinghgarh was deputed to Maksudangarh for 5 days in April 1907, and Forest Rules have since been promulgated, based on those framed by Mr. Williamson for Narsinghgarh. (Since the close of the year a trained Forest Ranger has been engaged for the Maksudangarh Estate.)

114. Commerce and Industry.—Exports and imports both show an increase since the previous year. The income from customs was Rs. 6,905 against Rs. 4,548 in 1906-07.

115. *Excise.*—Various reforms have been suggested by the Excise Commissioner in Central India and will come into force in 1909 when existing contracts expire. Income for the year under report was Rs. 356 (liquor 331, opium 25, drug nil).

116. *Public Works.*—These consisted of ordinary repairs to roads and buildings, a few additions to the jail, repairs of boundary pillars, the commencement of Chatri (estimated to cost Rs. 1,700) for the late Raja Raghunath Singh, and an irrigation survey undertaken at the advice of Mr. Marsh. The total expenditure on Public Works was Rs. 1,760.

117. *Post Office.*—The Estate now requires a whole-time Postmaster. The arrangement by which the Hospital Assistant or Compounder works as a part-time Branch Postmaster is not entirely satisfactory.

118. *General condition.*—Cultivators and merchants were prosperous but the labouring classes suffered distress on account of high prices of food grains. There were no epidemics but typhoid fever caused much mortality among children. Cattle disease (cow-pox) did much damage to live stock.

119. *Suthalia—Rainfall and Crops.*—The feature of the rainfall for 1907-08 were as already described in Rajgarh, Narsinghgarh, and Maksudangarh. The total fall was 26.97 against 41.42 for 1906-07 and an average of 32 inches. The outturn of the kharif crops was much below normal. Rabi sowings were small and the opium was much damaged by hail and gave a very scanty crop. The area of cotton cultivation was less than half that of the previous year (70 acres against 170 acres) and the outturn was less by two-thirds (30 maunds against 90 maunds in the previous year). Wages were high and the labouring classes prosperous. (It is curious that just the opposite was reported from the neighbouring Estate of Maksudangarh.) The trade of Suthalia is said to be flourishing.

120. *Public Works.*—Public Works are still confined to additions to the Thakur's residence "Shambhu Niwas" which will however contain a Kamdar's office and record room, to the completion of a temple, and to patty repairs.

121. *Post Office.*—The Estate has now been freed from the obligation of contributing to the local Post Office which has become self-supporting.

122. *General condition.*—The general condition of the people was good and there were no epidemics. Immigration during the year exceeded emigration by 150 per cent. (130 against 60). Cattle however decreased from 8,335 to 7,970, owing to want of fodder and to cattle disease.

123. *Korwai—Rainfall and Crops.*—The rains of 1907 commenced on 20th July and ceased at the end of August. During this time they were excessive. After 1st September no rain fell till January 1908. The total fall was 30 inches against 37 in the previous year—out of this 20 inches fell in August alone. Of the kharif crops the jowar came out the best, though damaged firstly by the short period of rainfall and secondly by its excessive quantity. The minor crops, such as kodu, tilli, and dhan, were entirely ruined by drought. Rabi sowings were poor, but a fall of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch rain in January saved the crops. The average outturn of kharif crops was 4 annas only and of rabi 12 annas. High prices of grains eventually compensated cultivators for shortness of output, but in November 1907 the apprehensions of famine were very great. The Superintendent, however, persuaded Mustajirs (contractors) of villages to help their people with advances of seed grain and also to take from the State takkavi loans free of interest, which were expended under State supervision on the erection of field bunds, only people from the distressed villages being employed on the work. Public Works undertaken by the Superintendent, such as repairs of State buildings, also gave employment to many. By these means the Superintendent succeeded in tiding over the period of scarcity till the January rain saved the rabi crop.

124. *Trade.*—Trade in Korwai is at a very low ebb. The construction of a Bazar has recently been commenced at Bareth Station (between Bhilsa and Bina) which will, it is hoped, improve the situation.

125. *Public Works.*—An Overseer has recently been engaged and it is intended shortly to commence building a school house near the Korwai Fort. A jail and hospital also are needed and will be built as funds permit.

126. *General condition.*—The general condition of the people was good on the whole, but cattle suffered, as in all other parts of this Agency, from cattle disease.

127. *Pathari.*—The rains were as described under Korwai. The outturn of the kharif crops was 8 annas and that of the rabi 12 annas in the rupee. Field *bunds* were commenced in January as a relief work at the expense of village Mustajirs who obtained for this purpose takkavi free of interest from the State. Rs. 1,257 were thus advanced and 7,527 persons were employed. Another 530 persons found employment on private work. There was no emigration or starvation on account of the scarcity.

128. There is very little trade in Pathari. The chief exports are ghi and grain. The customs have now been placed under the direct management of the Tehsildar instead of being farmed to a contractor. By the advice of the Excise Commissioner, two out of three liquor shops have been closed. (Both were on the Saugor border.) Ganja and opium are now sold at the customs office in Pathari instead of by a contractor as formerly. The cultivation of hemp drugs is forbidden and restrictions have been placed on its possession. Owing to want of funds it has not yet been possible to undertake any Public Works in Pathari. The general condition of the people is poor and they have nothing to fall back on in a bad year.

129. *Basoda.*—The rainfall of 1907 was insufficient and untimely, and the crops were damaged to the extent of 50 per cent. The rabi crops were only saved from destruction by rain in January 1908. The State afforded help to labourers and cultivators by employing them on irrigation works (tanks, walls, and water channels), and also on the construction of a new jail.

130. The late Kamdar divided the State Forests into 7 blocks, 5 of which he opened for cutting timber, reserving only 2. This resulted in a largely increased income amounting to Rs. 5,413, but it is now said that far too much timber has been cut and that the late Kamdar ought only to have opened one or two blocks by rotation in each year.

131. *Muhammadgarh.*—The rainfall of 1907 was scanty and both crops suffered to some extent. Prices rose considerably and wages were also high. The State forests have been much damaged by reckless cutting in the past, but efforts are now being made to improve their condition.

132. A new house for the Kamdar is under construction. A new jail has also been sanctioned and will be shortly commenced. The general condition of the people is fair. There were no epidemics during the year but much sickness and mortality among children.

133. *Hirapur.*—The kharif crops failed but the rabi was slightly more fortunate. In order to prevent the cultivators (mostly Bhils) from running away, takkavi was freely advanced, restrictions and duties on the removal and sale of grain and forest produce were largely relaxed, and relief works were sanctioned. The latter were, however, eventually not needed.

5. REVENUE AND FINANCE.

134. *Bhopal.*—The financial condition of the State is good and its prosperity is increasing. The year commenced with an opening balance of Rs. 5,46,473 and the total receipts amounted to Rs. 32,44,788. Out of this total of Rs. 37,91,261, a sum of Rs. 29,91,215 was spent during the year which closed with a balance of Rs. 8,00,046.

135. The system of keeping State accounts has been thoroughly overhauled and regulations have been introduced similar to those in force in the Accounts Department of the British Government. This has necessitated employment of a staff of trained outsiders; but a training school has been started in Bhopal City where residents of Bhopal can learn the method of official book-keeping with a view to their being ultimately employed in the accounts offices of the State.

136. *Rajgarh.*—The actual receipts for 1907-08 were Rs. 28,310 in excess of the estimates. The excess was chiefly under heads Customs and Excise and was due to the adoption of reforms kindly suggested by Mr. Cox, I.C.S.,

Excise Commissioner in Central India. Expenditure exceeded estimates by Rs. 31,695 (excess chiefly due to the visit of His Highness the Raja to Calcutta and to the completion of important Public Works such as the Newaj Bridge and the Chief's Kothi at Indore). The work of examining the old State accounts which has been progressing for many years past was completed this year. Many improvements have been introduced in the system of finance and accounts.

137. *Narsinghgarh*.—The following figures show the financial working of the year :—

	Rs.
Opening balance	59,969
Receipts	5,45,867
	Total
Expenditure	6,05,836 5,31,812
Closing balance	74,024

The total receipts for the year were Rs. 5,45,867, being Rs. 55,094 in excess of the preceding year. The recovery of land revenue was unprecedented, amounting to 96 per cent. of the total demand. The work of adjusting the old accounts of deposits and advances continued throughout the year. Items to the value of Rs. 3,754 still remain unadjusted. The clearance of Manotidar's* accounts also went on throughout

* *Manotidar*—one who stands security for a village contractor that the land revenue will be paid.
the year. These accounts have now been made out up to the year 1905 A.D. and the arrears due have been found to amount to Rs. 2,58,490. Out of this sum Rs. 25,513 were recovered and instalments were fixed for the recovery of Rs. 16,795. This leaves a very large balance (Rs. 2,16,182) of which little or none is likely to prove recoverable. The accounts of arrears due from village Mustajirs (contractors) or from tenants of Khalsa villages are being similarly treated, but as these generally relate to villages of which the condition was so hopeless that no Mustajir would take their contract, or no Manotidar give security for the contractor, it is unlikely that any recoveries will be made. The Narsinghgarh State holds Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 2,38,100.

138. *Khilchipur*.—Receipts for the year under report were Rs. 1,19,573 and expenses Rs. 98,862. The opening and closing balances were Rs. 36,649 and Rs. 5,736 respectively. The State was free from debt. Arrears standing against the names of Mustajirs and Manotidars amount to Rs. 60,604, the whole of which is likely to be irrecoverable.

139. *Maksudangarh*.—

	Rs.
Opening balance was	20,980
Receipts	50,260
Expenditure	47,550
Closing balance	23,690 } in round numbers.

The Estate has Rs. 80,000 invested in Government Promissory Notes.

140. *Suthalia*.—The Thakur's private purse now amounts to Rs. 21,124. He has therefore reduced his allowance paid by the Estate by Rs. 150 per mensem with effect from 1st November 1907.

141. *Korwai*.—

	Rs.
Opening balance	3,929
Receipts	53,074
	TOTAL
Expenditure	57,003 47,942
Closing balance	9,061

Rs. 22,000 were repaid to Government during the year under report out of the sum of Rs. 2,00,000 borrowed from Government in March 1907 to pay off the Ajmer Seths.

142. *Pathari*.—

	Rs.
Opening balance	1,313
Receipts	11,182
	<hr/>
Expenditure	Total
	12,495
	<hr/>
Closing balance	10,821
	<hr/>
	1,674

The amount still due to State creditors amounts to Rs. 24,778. It is being paid off by instalments of Rs. 4,010. Rs. 1,610 are still due to the State from the estate of the late Mian Ali Muhammad Khan (a former Kamdar who defrauded the State of large sums).

143. *Muhammadgarh*.—The revenue collections were good, though pressure was needed to recover instalments from habitual defaulters. The State debts were reduced this year by Rs. 1,450, which added to the previous adjustment of Rs. 2,358, is equal to Rs. 3,808. Claims for Rs. 6,865 still remain to be settled.

6. VITAL STATISTICS.

144. *Bhopal*.—Births during the year numbered 13,520, being nearly 3,000 less than last year. Deaths numbered 12,813, about the same as last year. Plague broke out in the early part of 1907 and remained throughout the year, causing much mortality in Bhopal City and the adjacent villages. During the year plague also broke out in the Sehore, Ichhawar, Raisen, and Nurganj Tehsils. Deaths from plague amounted to 1,631 and inoculations to 6,356; of the persons inoculated only 24 sickened and 5 died. The expenditure on measures against plague was Rs. 15,403.

7. MEDICAL.

145. *Bhopal*.—There are in the State 15 Hospitals and Dispensaries on the European system supervised by the Agency Surgeon. The expenditure on these during the year was Rs. 55,600 against Rs. 57,300 for the previous year. There are also 33 Unani Hospitals on which Rs. 24,200 were spent. These latter afforded treatment to 2,19,000 persons during the year. The Lady Lansdowne Hospital for women attracted 6,433 patients of whom 282 were in-door patients. Miss Blong (now Mrs. Grant), the late Lady Doctor, has been succeeded by Miss Iles. The health department of Bhopal City has been entrusted to the State Surgeon, a title newly given by Her Highness the Begum to Mr. Abdur Rahaman, pensioned Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Prince of Wales Hospital at Bhopal. 18,803 vaccinations were performed in the year of which 2,283 failed.

146. *Rajgarh*.—The Rajgarh and Biaora Dispensaries continue to do useful work.

147. *Narsinghgarh*.—The Agency Surgeon has commented unfavourably on the work of vaccinators in this State (and in fact in all States of the Agency).

148. *Khilchipur*.—A separate vaccinator has now been engaged. Formerly vaccination was performed by the Compounder of the Khilchipur Dispensary, but he only performed them at those villages which the Political Agent or the Agency Surgeon were likely to pass in their winter tour.

149. *Basoda*.—The Compounder in charge was removed during the year for dishonest dealings with one of the Begums of Muhammadgarh whom he was treating. He has been replaced by another Compounder. The necessity for an in-patient ward and operating room mentioned in last year's report (by the late Kamdar) is now denied by the Nawab.

150. There is nothing noteworthy as regards the Dispensaries at Maksudangarh and Korwai and there are no Dispensaries at Suthalia, Pathari, and Muhammadgarh.

8. EDUCATION.

151. *Bhopal*.—There are 44 schools in the State, 6 of which are girls' schools. Nine of these are in Bhopal City (5 boys' schools and 4 girls'). The total number of pupils is 2,461 including 458 girls. The attendance of schools in Bhopal City is increasing but in the districts there has been a slight decrease. The expenditure on education during the year under report was Rs. 60,777 against Rs. 55,163 in the previous year. The Alexandra Nobles' School at Bhopal has been converted into a High School and the upper classes of the Jahangiria High School have been amalgamated with it. The lower classes of the Jahangiria School have been amalgamated with the Sulemania School which teaches English up to the Middle standard and which now has two technical classes for instructing boys in boot making and tailoring. The 5 boys' schools of Bhopal City are therefore as follows :—

- (1) The Alexandra High School, Principal Mr. C. H. Payne, M.A.
- (2) The Sulemania Middle and Technical School.
- (3) The Madrasa Waqfia (religious and theological only).
- (4) The Asafia School (Medical only).
- (5) The Bilquisia Charity School (boys' branch), 6 members only.

The Alexandra High School took part in the recent schools' tournament at Indore and carried off 3 silver medals. The girls' schools of Bhopal City are as follows :—

- (1) The Sultania School (for upper class girls). Subjects taught :—
(1) The Kur'an, (2) Urdu to University Middle standard, (3) Persian, (4) English, (5) Arithmetic, (6) Needle-work. 113 students; daily average 85; Head Mistress (during the year under report) Miss M. A. Chinnappa (has since left Bhopal).
- (2) The Victoria School (for middle and lower class girls). Subjects taught :—Urdu, Persian, Arithmetic, and needle-work. 131 students; daily average 73; Head Mistress Mrs. Sculthorpe (Eurasian).
- (3) The Widows' School. Originally supported by public subscriptions but now by Her Highness the Begum and the Sahibzadas from their private means. Subjects taught :—Industrial arts. 175 students; Head Mistress during the year under report Miss M. E. Chinnappa (since left Bhopal).
- (4) The Bilquisia Charity School (girls' branch), 6 members only.

The Bilquisia Charitable Institution is really not a school because the members (orphans or destitute children) go for their lessons to the Sulemania or Victoria Schools, according as they are boys or girls. They are clothed and fed free of charge at State expense.

In the districts there are 35 village schools (33 boys' and 2 girls') teaching Urdu, Hindi, Persian, and Arithmetic. Three middle schools are to be added, at Bareli, Bairasia, and Bamhori. Sahibzada Hamidulla Khan laid the foundation stone of the Bareli school house, while he was with Her Highness the Begum on last cold weather tour.

152. *Rajgarh*.—A boarding house for Jagirdars has been built in connection with the Bane High School at Rajgarh, but it is very difficult to persuade Jagirdars to send their sons to school. The Darbar has abolished all fees for primary instruction with effect from 1st April 1907.

153. *Narsinghgarh*.—Eleven sons of Jagirdars now read in the High School, a boarding house for them is being built. A student from the Narsinghgarh High School has joined the Forest School at Balaghat, Central Provinces.

154. *Khilchipur*.—There were in the year under report two primary schools at Khilchipur, one Hindi and one Persian and Urdu. The average attendance was 37 and 20 respectively. There were two teachers, drawing one 10 rupees per mensem and the other 15 rupees per mensem. The State has given a subscription of Rs. 10 per annum for prizes at the Daly College.

155. *Maksudangarh*.—The Estate has two schools, one primary vernacular at Maksudangarh and one primary Hindi only (18 boys) at Nasirpur (for the Nasirpur Jagir).

156. *Suthalia*.—A school building is under construction.

157. *Korwai*.—A primary school has recently been started in a house in the Bazar and a school house will shortly be built near the Fort.

158. *Pathari*.—There is one vernacular primary school supported by private subscriptions.

159. *Basoda*.—There is one vernacular school in Basoda.

160. *Muhammadgarh*.—A village school has recently been started in Muhammadgarh and has 24 students. The three sons of the Nawab, who live with their father at Sehore, read in the Sehore High School and are doing fairly well.

161. The Rao of Hirapur, the Thakur of Tappa, and the Rao of Jhalcra also read in the Sehore High School.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

162. *Bhopal*.—Standard time was introduced during the year and Bhopal local time abolished.

The drafts of the Bhopal State Gazetteer and of the article on Bhopal for the Imperial Gazetteer were completed and sent to Indore.

163. *Narsinghgarh*.—A representative of the State branch of the Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha visited Ajmer and attended the annual meeting of the Walter Krit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha. The Superintendent thinks that the rules of the Sabha are now more generally followed in Narsinghgarh. In connection with the marriage of His Highness the Raja the State contributed Rs. 730 to the local Kanyadhan Fund.

164. *Khilchipur*.—The late Rao Bahadur professed to maintain a branch of the Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha, and representatives from Khilchipur have annually attended the meetings of the Malwa Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha at Nimach also that of the Walter Krit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha at Ajmer.

The Traffic Canvasser who visited Khilchipur last year on behalf of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company has apparently reported unfavourably on the prospects of Railway extension in that direction, as the General Traffic Superintendent has since informed the Diwan of Khilchipur that there is no immediate prospect of a narrow gauge line from Makri to Khilchipur being made.

165. *Maksudangarh*.—The mother of the young Jagirdar of Nasirpur died in February 1908. The Jagirdar's sister is of marriageable age and a husband is being sought for her. It is proposed to construct a house for the Thakur at Nasirpur, there being now no suitable residence for him there when he comes of age.

166. *Korwai*.—The young Jagirdar of Mahmuda Karhya is making good progress in education at the Saugor School.

167. *Basoda*.—Some geological specimens collected in the hills of the Basoda State have been sent to the Political Agent for examination by the Government Geologist.

(5) REVIEW BY MAJOR F. G. BEVILLE, C.I.E., POLITICAL AGENT IN BHOPAWAR, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE BHOPAWAR AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. *Agency Head Quarters*.—The question of moving the Head Quarters from Sirdarpur was under consideration during the past year and, though the matter has been mooted upon several occasions, the subject received more attention in 1907, owing to the fact that as a tentative measure the Head Quarters of the Malwa Bhil Corps were removed to Indore, and further that the accommodation placed at the disposal of the Political Agent, at Dhar, was required by the Darbar and necessitated the earnest consideration as to the

advantages and disadvantages of Sirdarpur as the Head Quarters. Sirdarpur has been but little used by the Political Agent during the last ten years, as it was found more convenient to make Dhar the temporary Head Quarters in view of the close supervision necessary over the administration of the State during the minority of the Chief.

The matter has not yet been definitely disposed of, and no doubt before final orders are passed, the subject will receive full consideration.

2. Settlement.—The year 1907 is also noteworthy in that after much correspondence and several sporadic and ineffectual attempts, an organized Land Revenue Settlement was started in the States of Dhar and Barwani. This, the first regular settlement attempted in the States in this Agency upon modern lines, marks an important era, and which is likely to leave a lasting mark upon the administration of these States, regularizing and defining important rights and rules both of the State as well as of the tenant, and which in the past have been applied in a manner neither regular nor defined. The results, provided the system is not too inelastic, should be beneficial to both the tenant and the landlord.

The small British district of Manpur which is included in the charge of the Political Agent was also re-surveyed and re-settled and, as a consequence, a considerably larger amount of attention was concentrated upon this small area than had been considered necessary in past years.

3. Season and Crops.—The rainfall in 1907 was late in arrival and short in quantity, the actual fall as compared with the normal being as follows:—

			Normal.	Rainfall in 1907.
Dhar	:	:	28	23
Barwani	:	:	28	12
Jhabua	:	:	30	22
Jobat	:	:	31	22.37
Ali Rajpur	:	:	32	20
Manpur	:	:	.36	26

The shortness in the fall, and the early cessation of the rain, was most detrimental to the winter crops, except in the deep black soils of Malwa, which were better able to retain moisture.

The outturn of the harvest was consequently very short, more particularly in the lighter soils. The worst class of cultivator, and consequently the one that is driven to till the inferior soils, was as a consequence the greatest sufferer. This class consists for the most part of the Bhils, who usually only make one sowing in the year. The failure therefore of the winter harvest resulted in much loss and difficulty to the Bhils.

The majority of the States fully realized the seriousness of the situation and timely remissions and suspensions of revenue were announced. This, coupled with the extra provision of funds for clearing and burning protective fire lines in the reserved forests, has, as regards the Bhils along the Narbadda Valley and the southern chain of the Vindhya, been found adequate to meet the distress which is undoubtedly prevailing, though further measures in the shape of advances for seed grain will be necessary on the approach of the next monsoon. That these measures have, as regards this area, been found adequate is so far evident in that there has been no outbreak of crime amongst the Bhils, and which characterizes their usual form of protest against an unpropitious season coupled with a disregard by the State towards their consequent difficulties. In the north-western portion of the Agency, a disregard by the State concerned of the conditions supervening has necessitated the expenditure of large sums of money under the direction of a British Officer, with a view to the alleviation of the distress that exists amongst the Bhil population.

In view of the threatening condition of affairs as ascertained in September last, the months of October and November were spent in making a

tour through the Bhil country. The northern and central portions of the Agency received a like attention during December and January, and the more eastern and southern parts of the Agency were visited in February, whilst in March a tour was commenced in the north-west part of the Agency, where relief measures had had to be started.

In Manpur, the demand for kharif crop was practically remitted in full upon the recommendation of the Settlement Officer as a result of a careful examination of the villages in the district. Measures of relief were subsequently started of a nature suitable to the Bhils. These measures were considered necessary in view of the fact that the pargana was being very rapidly denuded of all timber other than that reserved by Government. The felling of such large quantities of timber will, it is feared, be felt for several years to come, as it is bound to produce a shortage of fuel wood for local consumption. It was impossible, however, to place a restriction upon such fellings until other means of subsistence for the Bhils were made available.

4. *Dhar*.—The past year was one in which events of importance to the Dhar State have to be recorded. The Chief of the State, His Highness Raja Udaji Rao Puar, having attained his majority, was entrusted with the administration of affairs, and the period of superintendency which had lasted for close upon ten years was brought to a close.

The formal investiture of the Chief with administrative powers took place at Dhar in December 1907, the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General and his staff having come to the capital of the State for this purpose. The Political Agent had, some weeks previous to the investiture, removed to Sirdarpur, and the Chief, once invested with administrative powers, found himself unhampered by the proximity of the Agency Office, which might otherwise have caused some inconvenience in inaugurating the new system of administration.

His Highness has himself selected, as Diwan, an official of experienced capacity, and has entered into his administration full of promise, and his efforts will be watched with kindly sympathy. Immediately following upon his investiture with ruling powers, His Highness celebrated his marriage with a daughter of the house of Sawantwadi and, as His Highness' younger brother at the same time married another daughter of this house, this double alliance between the Puars of Dhar and the Sawantwadi family gives every promise of happiness to those concerned.

Shrimant Seturamji, the younger brother of the Chief, having completed the post diploma course at the Mayo College, left that Institution in May, and he has since been qualifying himself for employment in the State by working under the Settlement Officer.

It is recorded with regret that Shrimant Satya Sahib, the Jagirdar of Malthan and his Highness' elder and natural brother, who had been in failing health for many months past, succumbed in March last to the illness he had been suffering from. An infant son succeeds to the family estates in Dhar and the Deccan and which are heavily involved.

The Darbar was fortunate in obtaining the expert assistance of Mr. H. J. Hoare, I.C.S., Settlement Officer in Indore, in preparing the preliminaries for the Revenue Settlement of the State. The staff has been selected for this purpose from amongst those who have shown capacity in the Indore State, and the Darbar is fortunate in obtaining at the start a staff thoroughly experienced and acquainted with local conditions, and not the least of the advantages gained is that in the nomination for the post of Settlement Officer, of Major Ramprashad Dube, and which is a characteristic of the very cordial relations existing between the Indore State and its neighbours.

5. *Jhabua*.—The Darbar records the fourth marriage of His Highness the Raja which took place in May last. So far His Highness has had no heir.

The Diwan, who had been in the State for about two years, was replaced towards the close of the year by Mr. J. Rustomjee, whom His Highness selected for the post in succession to Pandit Rajnath.

Owing to the unsatisfactory relations existing between the Darbar and its Thakurs, a proposal was under consideration with a view to enquiry and settlement of outstanding differences and, with this object in view, the Darbar accepted a proposal that the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General should nominate an officer of experience to hold the enquiry.

The short-sighted policy observed in this State, whereby as much as was possible was squeezed out of the cultivator notwithstanding the very indifferent harvest, has caused widespread distress in the State, and it has been found desirable to appoint a British Officer for the purpose of supervising the measures of relief, and which has made it necessary to obtain a loan from Government.

The fall in the price of manganese has largely reduced the output of ore and this has in consequence reduced receipts on account of royalty paid to the Darbar by the concessionaires.

6. *Ali Rajpur*—The death of the Diwan, Rai Bahadur Waman Rao Bapuji, who had been connected with the State as Diwan and Superintendent for many years, took place in August 1907. The Rana Sahib selected, as a successor, Moulvi Sayed Ahmed, who, as Superintendent of Jobat, had already shown he was possessed of the capacity necessary to conduct the administration of a larger State.

The partial failure of the kharif harvest, in a State populated almost entirely by Bhils, was a cause for grave anxiety. However by an early appreciation of the gravity of the situation, the Darbar was enabled to meet its difficulties half way. Large remissions and suspensions of revenue were promptly given and intimated, and arrangements prepared for an extensive programme of useful works connected with the State forests, and upon which all those requiring assistance were employed. The results have so far proved most satisfactory and the Rana Sahib and his Diwan are to be congratulated upon the efforts they have both made with a view to mitigating as far as possible the difficulties which the Bhils have had to face.

7. *Barwani*—The Rana Sahib, upon the completion in a most brilliant manner of his post diploma course at the Mayo College, left Ajmer in May and, except for a few weeks spent in Dhar working under the Settlement Officer, he has been residing in the State. He has yet much knowledge to acquire before he can hope to be in a position to administer his State, and the best means to attain this end are under consideration.

In Barwani, as in Dhar, the Land Revenue Settlement was commenced in the year under report, the staff having, as in Dhar, been selected by Mr. H. J. Hoare, I. C. S., who has very kindly undertaken to advise as to the pitch of the assessment as suggested by the local Settlement Officer. The partial failure of the kharif crop has necessitated a reduction of about 40 per cent. in the demand and, as the State has in hand a number of works of general improvement and utility, but all involving considerable additional expenditure, it has been necessary to very carefully consider the financial situation. So far this does not give any cause for alarm, owing to the satisfactory working balances available at the commencement of the year. Care however is necessary, and strict economy must be observed. Here, as in Dhar, the decision to employ a full-time Engineer of good qualifications and upon a salary equal to that formerly devoted towards paying a local Engineer together with a share of the expenses of a joint Engineer has already given promise of much improvement in this important department of the State.

8. *Jobat*.—The Rana owing to ill-health had to leave the Daly College last year, and he remained under the treatment of the Agency Surgeon at Sirdarpur for some months. He was married in the spring to the daughter of the Raja of Dei in the Indore State. As soon as his health admitted of this, the Rana, together with a number of other young men, including the Rana of Barwani and the brother of the Raja of Dhar, were formed into a class for instruction in Survey and Land Revenue Settlement, under the general supervision of the Settlement Officer, Dhar. The knowledge, the Rana Sahib will thus acquire, should be of practical benefit to him in his own State.

The resignation of his post as Superintendent, by Moulvi Sayed Ahmed, on appointment to the Diwanship of Ali Rajpur, rendered it necessary to cast about for a successor. The selection fell upon Muhammad Akbar Khan, a relative of the late Khan Bahadur Najaf Khan, well-known in past years in Barwani and Ali Rajpur. Muhammad Akbar Khan possesses local experience, having served in Jobat under Moulvi Sayed Ahmed, and he gives promise of proving successful in the administration of this small State.

The unfavourable season, which affected the neighbouring States, appears to have had less effect upon Jobat, due in a measure to local thunderstorms, which gave much needed rain at a time when it was required.

As a result, although it was found necessary to grant suspensions in individual villages, the State was enabled to collect nearly the whole demand.

The efforts as regards improvement in agriculture which in other States, except Barwani, have so far not got beyond the initial stage, advanced somewhat further in Jobat in 1907. The State bought out adverse rights, and came to satisfactory terms with the Bhils who had rights to distil liquor. In consequence the Akbari contract was given out in 1907, pending the final arrangements which are in progress of settlement with a view to the introduction of the Madras system, and in which Jobat is joining with Ali Rajpur as a means to economy of working.

9. Minor Estates.—In the majority of these Estates, the unfavourable season necessitated a remission or suspension of revenue, together with liberal advances to cultivators, in order to save the rabi sowings by the digging of katcha wells, etc. The situation, though not altogether satisfactory, has not so far necessitated the opening of any relief works, though additional funds are being expended upon the forests in order to give assistance to those in want of it.

The Land Revenue Settlement in Dhar has afforded to the minor Estates subordinate to Dhar an excellent opportunity to obtain, at a comparatively small cost, the survey and settlement of their villages, and full opportunity has, with the cordial assent of the Darbar, been taken of this, and which the small Estates should greatly benefit by.

The Bhumiya of Garhi who, on succession by adoption in 1902, had been given somewhat undefined powers to administer his Estate, was found to have caused much discontent owing to his irregular methods of administration. With the approval of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General, the dependence of the Estate for advice was more clearly defined and it is hoped that, as a result, the complaints received will cease.

The Bhumiya of Chiktiabar died in May 1907 and the question of succession to the Estate is still before Government.

The various Estates, under the regularized system of supervision which is exercised, are showing satisfactory signs of improvement both administratively and financially.

10. Manpur.—The pargana was fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Hoare for the re-settlement of the Land Revenue. The two previous settlements had left a number of matters undisposed of, and which it was most desirable should receive the attention which only an expert Settlement Officer and one possessing local knowledge could give. As a result, the report drawn up by Mr. Hoare has made clear a number of details which were liable to be overlooked by the officer responsible for the administration of the pargana, and who at best can give but a small portion of his time to the pargana. The local staff responsible for the administration was re-organized and proposals submitted to Government for consideration with a view to rendering the same more efficient, both as regards land revenue administration and forest management.

11. Miscellaneous.—There was no change in the post of the Political Agent during the year.

Major H. Burden, I.M.S., Agency Surgeon, was transferred in November to Nepal, and was replaced in February by Captain J. R. Tyrell, I.M.S.

The Agency was visited twice during the year by the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General, besides several flying visits paid by him to Manpur and once to Sirdarpur.

(C) REVIEW BY MR. W. E. JARDINE, I.C.S., POLITICAL AGENT IN BUNDELKHAND, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE BUNDELKHAND AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

PART I.

1. *Season and Crops.*—Owing to deficient and untimely rainfall, the year 1907-08 was a bad one from an agricultural and financial point of view.

2. For the kharif it rained too late and too continuously to start with and then stopped suddenly and too soon : the result was that though largely sown, *vide Appendix IV*, the kharif crops yielded no more than a fourth of their normal outturn.

Similarly want of rain in October delayed the rabi sowings, the little rain that fell only enabled the cultivators to sow half the normal rabi area and in spite of showers in January 1908, they reaped only half of that.

There was however no want of water anywhere for men or cattle and fodder was amply sufficient until April. For cotton and wheat statistics a reference is invited to Appendices II and III.

3. Thanks to the irrigated rabi of 1906-07, to the stocks of their bumper jowar harvest of December 1906, to the bumper mahua crop of March 1907, and to the presence of young farm beasts, the cultivating classes were able to live comfortably, to sell the surplus at high rates and, after satisfying the tax-gatherer, to employ labour for farm improvements. Then there were great works in progress in the adjacent districts of British India, the Dhasan Canal and the Betwa Canal, and the newly protected cultivation under the Ken Canal which Sir James Digges La Touche had opened in October 1906, not to mention the village works undertaken by the recipients of the suspensions, remissions, and takkavi so generously given by the Government of the United Provinces. The condition of the people and their cattle was therefore comparatively good.

4. The States principally affected lay, as in 1905-06, to the north of the Jhansi-Manikpur Branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway and included Datia, Samthar, Baoni, and Sarila; the four Hasht Bhaya Jagirs—Tori Fatehpur, Dhurwai, Bijna, and Banka Pahari; Beri and Bihat; besides portions of Orchha and Charkhari; while parts of Panna, Ajaigarh, Chhattarpur, Gaurihar and other Jagirs south of the Railway were affected to a less degree. They met the situation by remissions (Rs. 2,61,000) and suspensions (Rs. 8,33,000) of the land revenue demand, (the Nawab of Baoni remitted Rs. 91,800 or nearly three-quarters of his revenue), by the grant of takkavi, by an expansion of their ordinary Public Works Department programme, by increased activity on the part of the Forest Department, and other usual methods of famine relief. These will form the subject of a separate Famine Report. The situation was, happily, never so critical as it was in 1896-97 and 1905-06.

5. *Public Works.*—As stated above agricultural depression led to a general extension of Public Works.

The Nagod Division having been abolished by the Government of India, the Imperial buildings and roads in the Bundelkhand Agency were, from June 1907, placed in charge of Sardar Gurmukh Singh, the State Engineer for Panna, Charkhari, Bijawar, Baoni, Chhattarpur, etc.

The following statement shows the expenditure incurred on Public Works from funds at the disposal of the Agent to the Governor General in Central India :—

Sub-heads.		Expenditure during 1907-08.
		Rs.
Original Works, Civil buildings . . . . .	.	3,919
" Communications . . . . .	.	410
Repairs to Civil buildings . . . . .	.	4,029
" to Communications . . . . .	.	48,997
Local Funds (contributional) . . . . .	.	6,639
Tools and Plant . . . . .	.	1,363
	TOTAL	65,357

The State Engineer has also collected large quantities of metal on the Imperial roads for future use.

6. Turning to Native State territory his record is equally good. The total sum spent by the States through him and his Department exceeded four and a quarter lakhs of rupees.

Progress was made with the following roads :—

- (a) Datia-Seondha.
- (b) Nadigaon-Kunch.
- (c) Kalpi-Babina-Kadaura-Jalalpur.
- (d) Sarila.
- (e) Nowgong-Gora Tal.
- (f) Nowgong-Garauli.
- (g) Nowgong-Naigawan Rebai.
- (h) Bamitha-Khajraha-Rajnagar.
- (i) Panna-Amanganj-Simaria-Gaisabad.
- (j) Mahodra-Powai.
- (k) Powai-Shahnagar.
- (l) Hirapur-Buxwaho-Battiagarh.

No part of Bundelkhand is more than 50 miles from a Railway, but the country has hitherto suffered severely for want of interior lines of communication; the roads named will afford a partial remedy.

Nor has the storage of water been neglected. Several large tanks have been restored, the most important being one at Panna on which Maharaja Lokpal Singh had spent lakhs some years ago and never finished; and another at Beniganj, near Khajraha, built originally by the Chandels.

These roads and tanks afforded the means of relief to large numbers of the unemployed and were chiefly instrumental in averting severe distress; it is greatly to Sardar Gurmukh Singh's credit that His Highness the late Chief of Charkhari should have spontaneously applied for permission to share in his services and have employed him to plan and execute his principal famine projects.

In the matter of buildings a new Tehsil at Buxwaho, Hospitals at Buxwaho, Simaria, Sarila, and Baoni, and the restoration of the existing Tehsils at Simaria, Powai, and Dharampur are the more striking items of the year's work.

The conservation of the ancient temples at Khajraha made steady progress under the direction of the Archaeological Department, thanks to the goodwill and generosity of His Highness the Maharaja of Chhatarpur and substantial pecuniary assistance from the Government of India.

7. Mr. H. Marsh toured in the Agency during the cold weather, and hopes, it is understood, to have evolved schemes of considerable value: unfortunately large irrigation schemes are very expensive and the States most prone to famine are the least able to afford protection.

8. Education.—The following boys from this Agency are reading at the Mayo College :—

Panna.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Maharaja of Panna. | 3. Kuar Hira Singh, his cousin. |
| 2. Kuar Raghvendra Singh, his brother. | 4. Kuar Pritpal Singh, Jagirdar of Simaria. |

Baoni.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 5. Sahibzada Mushtaq-ul-Hasan Khan,
heir to the <i>gadi</i> . | 7. Badr-i-Alam |
| 6. Fakhr-i-Alam. | 8. Nazir-ud-din |

The following are at the Daly College :—

Orchha.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Kuar Jawahir Singh of Hirapur.
2. Kuar Sardar Singh of Bhilsa. | 3. Kuar Pancham Singh of Arora.
4. Kuar Mardan Singh of Jiron. |
| 5. Kuar Kanhaiya Singh of Hirapur. | |

Datia.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6. Kuar Budh Singh of Kumarra.
7. Kuar Mahaj Singh of Bhiyad. | 8. Kuar Mangal Singh of Kumarra.
9. Kuar Nahar Singh of Bhasne. |
|--|--|

Panna.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 10. Kuar Vishwanath Singh of Kurra
Rampur. | 11. Kuar Murat Singh of Budora. |
| 12. Kuar Puran Singh of Kalyanpur. | |

Bijawar.

13. Kuar Malkhan Singh of Lakhangawan.

Beri.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 14. Rao Lokendra Singh, Jagirdar. | 15. Kuar Ghanraj Singh. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|

Lughasi.

16. Kuar Partap Singh.

9. In Orchha, Datia, Panna, Charkhari, and Chhatarpur there are High Schools teaching up to the Entrantee Class.

In Samthar, Ajaigarh, Bijawar, and Baoni there are Middle Schools. Primary Schools are reeeiving increased attention.

The Sardars' School and Boarding House at Panna now eontains about 80 Thakur boys.

10. *Surveys.*—Mr. G. B. Scott, after completing the survey of the States of Panna, Bijawar, Baoni, and Sarila, and supervising that of Lughasi and several other Jagirs, was attaehed to Mr. Marsh's party and undertook the survey of the Sindh Canal project, the Chhatarpur Canal, and of two equally large irrigation projects in the south of Panna.

He also undertook the settlement of 20 boundary disputes between the States of Panna, Charkhari, Ajaigarh, Bijawar, Maihar, Kothi, and Paldeo; the work was done in addition to his other duties and, including the time spent in marching, oeeupied only 60 days, while the cost, including the eost of coolies, mapping, and other misesllaneous items, amounted to only Rs. 1,280 or an average of Rs. 64 for each dispute.

Such results reflect great credit on him, especially when it is remembered that he is a man of 60 years of age and that the work was done in inaceessible hilly country in the heat of the day between the 16th February and the 18th April in Bundelkhand. What with revenue surveys, canal surveys and the settllement of boundary disputes, all carried out with preeision and at a minimum of expenditure of time and money, Mr. Scott has worthily upheld his reputation.

11. *Settlement.*—The settlement of the Panna State, commeneed by Mr. J. E. Goudge, I.C.S., during the cold weather of 1904-05, was eompleted by the 3rd March 1908, when his services were replaeed at the disposal of the Government of the United Provinces. The area involved was 2,596 square miles including upwards of 1,000 villages, each of which Mr. Goudge visited and assessed personally. His assessments worked out to Rs. 4,62,953 giving an increase of Rs. 8.88 per eent. on the Darbar's expiring demand of Rs. 4,25,186 and an incidenee of Rs. 1.48 per aere of cultivation.

The total number of holdings involved was 64,284 : and it was over these that his assessments were spread; but only 2,255 tenants or 3.33 per eent. preferred appeals against the proposed demand. This shows that on the whole the people were contented with his assessments.

12. As mentioned in the last year's Administration Report the records of all the villages of the State assessed by the Settlement Officer were finally faired in his office and made over to the Darbar bound in books. In five of the parganas—Panna, Shinghpur, Birshinghpur, Dharampur, and Aktohan—the records were faired in duplicate, one copy being for the Darbar Office and another for use by the Patwaris; in the rest of the State only one copy was made solely for the use of the Darbar office, the Patwaris being supplied with a duplicate copy of the *Khasra* alone.

The total cost of settlement operations in the Panna State was Rs. 1,54,645 or Rs. 59·56 to the square mile.

13. In addition to the Panna work Mr. Goudge visited the Bijawar State in December 1907, inspected the revenue work of the Patwaris, Kanungos, and Tehsildars and secured the correction of certain unexpected developments.

14. Panna, Bijawar, Baoni, and Sarila, all of which he settled, have every reason to be grateful to Mr. Goudge for the conscientious, sympathetic character of his work : his departure was a distinct misfortune to the States as well as to Nowgong.

15. Advantage was taken of Mr. Goudge's presence in the Agency and of Mr. Scott's to survey and settle some of the smaller States more or less embedded in the settled districts of British Bundelkhand. For various reasons it seemed preferable to employ Native agency on the task and, with their help and advice, however informal, to fall back upon, the work was entrusted to Mr. Scott's Head Inspector, Sayed Nadir Husain, an old man of about 50 years but still active as surveyors often are. The following table shows the work done, the cost, and the financial results :—

Abstract statement of accounts of survey and settlement of Jagirs in Bundelkhand

NAME OF JAGIR.	Area in square miles.	Actual expenditure on survey and settlement	Land revenue prior to settlement.	Land revenue assessed.	Profit to the State.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Garauli	38 50	3,884	20,226	23,947	3,721
2. Bihat	16 17	2,342	16,544	18,654	2,110
3. Beri	32 20	2,500	23,425	25,782	2,357
4. Lughasi	45 33	4,300	17,357	20,333	2,976
5. Dhurwai	14 07	1,742	10,108	11,830	1,722
6. Bijna	7 22	1,352	5,580	6,274	694
7. Gaunhar	71 25	5,600	26,696	39,818	13,122
8. Naigawan Rebai .	12·18	1,061	10,013	12,727	2,714
TOTAL . .	236 92	22,780	1,29,949	1,59,365	29,416

The end has entirely justified the means, the profits being out of all proportions to the cost and the cost per mile extremely low : it accordingly gives me much pleasure to bring Sayed Nadir Husain's excellent work to special notice. He has given satisfaction not only to the Agency but to the Chiefs concerned and to their tenants and has won their confidence. The benefits of a regular settlement are fully appreciated and, the local Patwāris having been trained and Kanungos provided to give it a fair start, the new system possesses the essentials to stability.

16. *Forestry*.—Mr. J. M. Blanchfield continued to be the State Forest Officer for Panna, Bijawar, and Chhatarpur throughout the year.

In Panna the demarcation of A class forests was almost completed; their extent is now about $330\frac{1}{2}$ square miles : in 1908-09 it will be increased to in-

clude the catchment area of the Ken and its tributaries in the southern par-ganas of the State. Fire protection was effective.

The B class forests measure 1,939½ square miles and the land excluded from forests 222½ square miles.

Lac cultivation has so far proved disappointing : further experiments will be made.

The planting of trees on road sides and on camping grounds where the old trees were disappearing was vigorously proceeded with : in all 3,538 trees were planted : it remains to be seen how many grow up.

Lantana scandens was dug up by the roots at Bisramganj and Panna, prickly pear destroyed near Itwa, and upwards of 20,000 Mahua trees cleared of Loranthus by the Forest and Revenue Departments combined. The net profit from the forests in Panna rose from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 46,000, the income being Rs. 81,000 and the expenses Rs. 34,000.

Later in the year systematic bamboo cutting and basket making was arranged to employ the jungle tribes and distress was relieved without injury to the jungles.

In Bijawar and Chhattarpur little progress has been made, in the former for want of funds which the prevailing scarcity accentuated, in the latter for want of intelligent co-operation on the part of the Diwan : now that the Diwan has been changed some practical improvement is to be expected. The Charkhari and Ajaigarh Darbars continued to work on corresponding lines but with separate establishments, as agreed, and have had no cause to regret the arrangement.

17. *Medical*.—The Hospitals were the same as in 1906-07. After Captain Knox's departure on furlough on 1st April 1907, the post of officiating Agency Surgeon was held throughout the year by different Military Medical Officers of the Nowgong Garrison in addition to their regimental duties; the result was that little or no inspection work was possible and a large decrease took place in the number of operations performed in the Civil Hospital Nowgong, on patients from Native States.

The number of operations performed in 1905-06 was 714; in 1906-07, 744; and in 1907-08 only 605.

There was no Assistant Surgeon at Panna during the year. An Assistant Surgeon was entertained at Ajaigarh on the 24th June 1907, where he is doing good work.

Bijawar was without the services of a Hospital Assistant for about six months.

The number of out-patients treated in the Agency was 1,14,156, of in-patients treated 1,247; and of operations 4,761.

The public health was fairly good and there was no cholera.

A localized out-break of plague occurred at Jiron (Orchha) on the 9th December 1907. It was personally visited by the Agency Surgeon in March 1908.

Small-pox occurred in epidemic form in some of the villages of the Chhattarpur State and in Bilehri; from the latter the disease spread to the Nowgong Cantonment.

The new system of vaccination has been successfully carried out in the States of Panna, Chhattarpur, Baoni, and Sarila, and in all the Jagirs. It is to be hoped that the remaining States will shortly see their way to co-operating. The number of vaccinations performed was 85,050 with a percentage of success of 90 per cent.

The total number of registered births in the Agency was 24,700 and of deaths 19,422.

18. *Visits*.—The Chiefs of Orchha, Datia, Charkhari, and Bijawar journeyed to Indore, in January 1908, to attend the general meeting of the Daly College.

19. The Honourable Colonel Daly, the Agent to the Governor General in Central India, halted at Datia in August 1907, in connection with Maha-

raja's installation, and visited the Agency at Nowgong and the States of Datia, Panna, Bijawar, Chhatarpur, and Orchha in February 1908.

PART II.—POLITICAL REVIEW.

20. *Orchha*.—The fourth son of the Raja Bahadur whose birth was reported last year died on the 17th July 1907.

21. His Highness the Maharaja has agreed, as have the other Chiefs in this Agency, to the prohibition of the cultivation of opium and ganja in his territory for a term of years. He still intends to put the road from Mau-Ranipur to Tikamgarh in proper order at an early date. He has also arranged for the closure of the liquor shop at Kumarra in deference to the wishes of the Cantonment Authorities.

The idea of exchanging isolated and outlying villages belonging to Orchha and the British District of Jhansi, which fell through in 1886 and 1891, has been revived : the Chief and the United Provinces Government being both inclined to proceed with it in a liberal and sympathetic manner, there is reason to hope for a settlement acceptable to the Government of India at no very distant date. Exchanges are similarly in process of arrangement between Jhansi and the States of Datia, Tori-Fatehpur, Dhurwai, and Bijna.

22. *Datia*.—His Highness the Maharaja Lokendra Sir Bhawani Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I., died suddenly on the 4th August 1907, a few hours only after the birth of the much-hoped-for son to the Raja Bahadur Govind Singh.

23. The Raja Bahadur succeeded his father in due course and was installed by the Honourable Colonel Daly on the 21st of the same month under the orders of the Government of India.

24. Mr. L. W. Reynolds, I.C.S., was deputed to Datia for six months from the 6th of January 1908, as Special Political Officer, to report on the system of administration there. His report has been submitted only recently, but his tact and patience rapidly secured the young Chief's confidence, with the result that the measures for the relief of distress were carried out by His Highness whole-heartedly from the beginning and much progress was made towards placing the administration on a better footing.

25. The post of Diwan which remained vacant for several months after the death of Rao Bahadur Janki Pershad has been entrusted to Rai Bahadur Pandit Maharaj Narain Sheopuri, a retired Deputy Collector from the United Provinces. The selection being acceptable to His Highness the best results may be expected from their joint efforts.

26. Muhammad Siddik, Inspector of the Datia Police, again succeeded during the year under report in securing from the Inspector General of Police in the United Provinces the substantial recognition of services rendered in the prevention and detection of crime.

27. The Sindh Canal project has been completed by Mr. Marsh : the question of ways and means is receiving consideration.

28. *Samthar*.—The financial effects of crop failure was felt with special severity in this State where all State servants are ordinarily paid by assignments of land. It is to be hoped that His Highness will take warning and give the problem his earnest consideration.

29. *Panna*.—The Maharaja continued at the Mayo College, Ajmer. The Rao Ranis proceeded on a pilgrimage.

30. Their brother, Sobha Singh, has set to work to fit himself for suitable employment in the State : so has Rao Anant Singh's son the nephew of Her Highness the Mahendra Maharani. With such examples before them there should be no difficulty in getting the boys in the Thakurs' School and Boarding House trained in Survey, Forestry, Medicine, and Veterinary Science with great benefit to the State and to themselves.

31. *Ajaigarh*.—His Highness the Maharaja Sir Ranjor Singh's grandson was married in the year under report to a daughter of the Raja of Tehri-Garhwal.

32. *Bijawar*.—Shaikl Abdul Ghani, a Tehsildar from the United Provinces, succeeded Munshi Gopi Nath as Diwan of the State on probation for one year. He has since reverted to the British service, the Chief having taken upon himself the administration of the State in all its details.

33. *Tori-Fatehpur*.—Raghuraj Singh, the Jagirdar's son, has joined the Daly College.

34. *Bijnar*.—Kuar Ratan Singh, the Jagirdar's eldest son, and Dewan Kumer Singh died on the 12th and 3rd December 1907, respectively.

35. *Gaurihar*.—The Jagirdar of Gaurihar was invested with partial powers of administration on the 21st June 1907.

36. *Lughasi*.—Dewan Chhatrapatti Singh, the Jagirdar, was married in May 1907, and is at present working with the Kamdar and the State Engineer.

His younger brother, Kuar Pratap Singh, is still at the Daly College.

37. *Bihat*.—The Jagirdar Rao Mahum Singh died on the 25th January 1908, leaving a son aged about 7 years. Arrangements have been made to send the minor Jagirdar to the Daly College when it re-opens on the 1st July, 1908.

38. *Naigawan Rebai*.—The Jagirdar was married on the 10th June 1907.

39. *Banka Pahari*.—The Jagirdar's first son Baldeo Singh was married on the 22nd May 1907.

40. *The Beville Krit Thakur Hitkarini Sabha*.—The Sabha continued as usual to do good work during the year.

Babu Sarat Chandra Dey has now been appointed Secretary to the Main Sabha.

41. I have to record with regret the death of my Head Clerk, Pandit Prabhu Dayal, a few weeks before the close of the year: his intimate knowledge of the Agency it will be difficult to replace.

Appendix I.

Statement showing the prices current at Nowgong during the year 1907-08.

Principal food grains.	April 1907.			May 1907.			June 1907.			July 1907.			August 1907.			September 1907.			October 1907.			November 1907.			December 1907.			January 1908.			February 1908.			March 1908.			Remarks.		
	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.	Ser.	Chk.							
Wheat	.	14	2	12	14	11	7	11	0	10	13	10	7	12	7	12	8	3	7	10	7	4	7	7	2	7	7	12	7	12	7	12							
Gram	.	19	11	17	15	16	3	15	4	15	13	14	2	10	15	11	11	9	10	8	7	9	1	9	1	9	2	7	9	1	9	2							
Barley	.	26	13	23	6	21	15	19	12	17	15	17	4	12	2	11	13	10	10	0	4	9	11	9	11	9	12	9	12	9	12								
Lentil	.	28	5	22	12	21	9	18	12	17	5	16	2	11	6	10	13	9	11	8	9	9	1	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11								

Appendix II.

Final forecast of the cotton crop in the Bundelkhand Agency for the year 1907-08.

		ACREAGE.						YIELD (IN DALES OF 400 LBS. EACH).							
District.	Of current year's crop.	Of previous year's crop.		Average of preceding years.		Percentage by which column 2 exceeds (+) or is less than (-) area in Column 3.		Estimated yield of current year, i.e., of area in column 2.		Yield of previous year, i.e., of area in column 3.		Average of preceding years.		Percentage by which column 7 exceeds (+) or is less than (-) yield in Column 8.	
		Column 3.	Column 4.	Column 5.	Column 6.	Column 7.	Column 8.	Column 9.	Column 10.	Column 11.	Column 12.	Column 13.	Column 14.	Column 15.	Column 16.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
Bundelkhand	-	31,138	49,403	40,792	40,826	-36 33	-29 93	-22 99	1,190	9,356	9,005	14,695	-87 28	-87 81	-01 80

Appendix III.
Final forecast of the wheat crop in the Bundelkhand Agency for 1907-08.

District.	Acreage.	Yield in tons.				REMARKS.		
		Of previous year's crop.		Average of preceding years.				
		Of current year's crop.	Column 4.	5 years.	10 years.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Bundelkhand	106,200	194,255	167,328	134,632	—45	—37	—21	

Appendix IV.
*Statement showing area under kharif and rabi from Sambat 1902 to 1904 in the States and Jagirs in the Bundelkhand Agency.
 (Area shown in bighas.)*

Serial No.	NAME OF STATE AND JAGIR.	SAMBAT 1902 (1905-06).			SAMBAT 1903 (1906-07).			SAMBAT 1904 (1907-08).		
		Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.
1	Orchha	502,246	232,187	734,433	Not available.	189,392	499,843	62,404	71,188	133,652
2	Datia	172,041	251,838	424,839	310,451	49,056	126,340	13,581	9,204	22,845
3	Santgarh	51,170	9,842	61,012	77,293	254,514	636,009	340,187	117,937	467,124
4	Panna	378,195	233,118	611,923	382,455	100,188	297,551	54,223	251,936	207,201
5	Charkhandri	153,106	115,930	263,086	197,363	148,272	104,474	125,746	81,476	61,745
6	Ajaigarh	130,757	89,543	220,300	108,890	108,895	59,593	258,447	34,546	27,199
7	Dholpur	64,380	34,010	103,990	54,773	51,135	105,908	31,052	44,400	12,538
8	Bijawar	25,345	78,592	103,907	95,467	295,221	319,702	97,082	416,784	17,958
9	Chhattarpur	205,138	77,165	282,293	209,751	14,875	31,373	15,558	2,400	4,214
10	Sarla	19,755	12,655	32,410	16,498	..	..	..	..	2,205
	Jagirs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,909
11	Dhurwai	1,985	5,010	7,985	6,324	2,165	8,489	3,353	856	2,083
12	Bijnor	2,944	2,4357	6,301	3,782	1,486	5,268	1,921	344	10,931
13	Tori-Fatichpur	11,532	10,193	21,725	14,297	6,056	19,953	8,226	1,261	1,114
14	Banksa Pahari	1,425	2,633	4,068	3,755	1,518	5,273	1,726	807	15,623
15	Jigni	11,486	3,748	15,234	9,260	6,102	14,352	16,871	3,566	19,437
16	Lughasi	8,678	4,076	12,753	9,413	3,086	12,509	3,584	3,584	7,259
17	Bilaspur	6,029	5,202	11,231	7,312	3,732	11,044	5,189	1,760	1,633
18	Beoli	4,401	8,447	12,358	6,123	7,040	23,163	14,117	2,814	16,931
19	Ganeshwar	12,813	10,819	23,632	15,830	11,382	27,212	12,597	7,621	1,163
20	Gaurauli	10,409	4,122	14,621	9,726	2,871	14,621	27,475	20,281	8,784
21	Alipura	30,768	6,218	36,766	21,289	6,186	5,413	6,285	2,023	25,666
22	Nagawan Rehbar	4,677	3,019	7,936	7,936	..	..	3,819	4,516	697

(7) REVIEW BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL L. S. NEWMARCH, POLITICAL AGENT IN MALWA, OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE MALWA AGENCY FOR THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall during the year was scanty and very much below the average throughout the Agency and the outturn of cereal crops was consequently affected.

Though no actual famine occurred, scarcity prevailed in most parts and the prices of food grains, which have risen abnormally high since July 1907, have not gone down yet.

2. *Public Health.*—Plague was prevalent in the beginning of the year but subsided at the beginning of the hot weather. It again broke out in August 1907 and continued till the end of the year. The States most affected were Ratlam and Sailana where the total number of attacks and deaths were as under :—

	Seizures.	Deaths.
Ratlam	581	448
Sailana	163	131

There were also a few cases of small-pox and measles in Jaora and Sitamau. But on the whole the year under report was a fairly healthy one.

3. *Occurrences of Note.*—Major P. T. Spence proceeded on ten months' furlough on the 1st October 1907, and Colonel L. S. Newmarch succeeded him as Political Agent in Malwa. He took over charge of the Agency from Major J. L. Kaye, Resident at Indore, who was holding temporary charge during Major Spence's absence, on the 31st October 1907.

Colonel Newmarch made an extended tour in the Agency which lasted for about $3\frac{1}{2}$ months and visited nearly all the States and Estates in the Agency. He attended the ceremony of the investiture of His Highness the Raja of Dewas, Senior Branch, with ruling powers which was held at Dewas on the 24th February 1908.

The Gwalior districts comprised in the Malwa Prant (with some of their guaranteed Thakurs) which were formerly under the political charge of the Malwa Agency were transferred at the end of the year to the charge of the Resident at Gwalior; but the judicial work of the Neemuch Cantonment has not yet been taken over by the Resident at Gwalior and the transfer is therefore still incomplete.

4. *Dewas State, Senior Branch.*—His Highness the Raja made an extended tour throughout India, Burma, and Ceylon from October 1907 to January 1908. He was accompanied by his guardian, Mr. M. L. Darling, I.C.S.

On the 24th of February 1908, His Highness was invested with ruling powers by the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel H. Daly, C.S.I., C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

Shortly after his investiture, His Highness was married to the daughter of His Highness the Chatarpati of Kolhapur. The marriage was celebrated with great éclat and was attended by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay and other Chiefs and high officials of the Bombay Presidency. I am glad to note that the marriage cost the State very little indeed.

On assuming the administration, His Highness appointed Pandit Narain Pershad as his Minister in place of Rao Bahadur R. J. Bhide, who retired from the service of the State on the termination of the minority.

The new survey operations in the State commenced in October 1907 and are making satisfactory progress. In honour of His Highness's investiture with ruling powers a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was remitted on account of arrears of land revenue.

Rs. 15,000 were paid during the year towards the repayment of the famine loans, the amount of which now stands at Rs. 2,20,000.

The State has been free from plague throughout the year.

It is under contemplation to have an Educational Board consisting of the Ministers of the two branches of the Dewas State and the Superintendent of Education to discuss educational matters in the two States, in those cases in which the cost is jointly shared by both branches.

5. *Dewas State, Junior Branch.*—His Highness the Raja attended the general Council of the Daly College at Indore in January 1908.

Shrimant Sadashiv Rao Khase Sahib Powar, brother of His Highness, proceeded to England for purposes of study.

The agricultural situation of the State during the year was as gloomy as in other parts of the Agency owing to the cessation of rain at the end of the monsoon season; and the appearance of cattle disease in Bagode and Akbarpur is said to have added to the mischief already wrought by the deficiency of rainfall.

The total actual receipts for the year are said to be Rs. 2,60,719. Government Promissory notes of the face value of Rs. 2,83,200 have been sold and the sale proceeds devoted to the repayment of loans taken from the Gwalior and Indore Darbars. It is understood that the State liabilities now stand at Rs. 1,85,000, or a little more. The condition of the finances appears to be somewhat unsatisfactory and in other respects also the affairs of the State have given some cause for anxiety.

6. *Jaora.*—His Highness the Nawab was made a Captain in the British Army in the year under report, an honour which was well deserved and much appreciated.

The Minister, Khan Bahadur Yar Muhammad Khan, C.S.I., has been compelled, owing to illness, to take a long rest and the work of administration has, since the 15th July 1907, been conducted by His Highness the Nawab personally.

His Highness paid visits to Rampur, Alwar, and Indore during the year and toured in the Tal and Barauda districts of the State.

The deficiency of rainfall seems to have affected the agricultural prospects of the State, but not to such an extent as to render it necessary to open relief works. Some distress was felt owing to high prices prevailing in the State but the supply of food was sufficient for the requirements of the people.

The expenditure on Public Works is reported to be Rs. 29,939 and on irrigation works Rs. 12,806.

The State paid Rs. 60,000 towards the repayment of the loans which stood at the end of the year at Rs. 9,55,691.. This does not include all the debts of the State.

The State Medical Department has done good work under the State Surgeon, Dr. Hormusji Cawasji, L. M. & S. The number of patients treated during the year was 54,484. The total cost of all medical institutions was Rs. 11,271.

The expenditure on education was only Rs. 7,182. The progress of the State is much retarded by its indebtedness, and a very close control of the finances will be necessary to restore the State to a normal condition.

7. *Ratlam.*—Pandit Babu Rao Walwalkar, the Diwan of the State, resigned his appointment in August 1907, and ever since then His Highness the Raja is conducting the administration of the State assisted by a Council composed of the gentlemen named below :—

Pandit Brij Mohan Nath Zutshi, B.A., LL.B.

Rao Bahadur Raghunath Singh, the Thakur of Amleta.

Pradhan Shaligramji.

Mr. D. F. Vakil, B.A.

His Highness was made a Captain in the British Army in February 1908, an honour well deserved and much appreciated.

Mr. A. Herbert, who was lately engaged as Private Secretary to His Highness, died at Mussoorie on the 26th September 1907, and his loss was deeply regretted.

His Highness paid visits to Kathiawar and attended the meetings of the Daly College at Indore.

Mr. A. Heron of the Geological Survey Department made an experimental survey of the State, but it is understood that the State has hardly any economic minerals of value. Basaltic rock prevails almost everywhere.

The land revenue demand of the State was Rs. 2,75,851 and the collection was Rs. 2,89,017. The demand and collection during the year previous were Rs. 2,57,589 and 2,43,917 respectively.

No important changes have taken place in legislation during the year except that *Satta* transactions are now required to be registered.

The State municipality is said to be doing its work satisfactorily. The total municipal receipts and expenditure during the year were Rs. 39,606 and 40,668 respectively.

There is no forest worthy of the name in the State but some acres of land in the hilly tracts of Bajna have been proclaimed as reserved forests.

The total expenditure on Public Works Department was Rs. 66,590 against Rs. 40,232 in the previous year; but very little was spent on reproductive works.

The State maintains a High School in the city of Ratlam and 14 primary schools in the city and districts. Besides this there are 39 indigenous *pathshalas*. The total expenditure on education was only Rs. 7,078, but the results were good.

The working of the Police has not been altogether satisfactory and His Highness contemplates reforms in which he will receive the cordial support and assistance of the Agency.

The future of opium is causing some anxiety in Ratlam. With one or two minor exceptions the administration has been good, and the State is not in debt.

8. *Sitamau*.—His Highness the Raja paid several visits to Indore to attend the meetings of the Daly College.

He also paid a visit to Neemuch to bid farewell to Major Spence on the occasion of his going on furlough.

Messrs. Heron and Jones of the Geological Department conducted operations in the State during the year under report. The results are at present unknown.

The administration of the State was conducted throughout the year by Rai Bhagotilal, the Kamdar.

The revenue system of the State is said to be based on the model of the *Rayatwari* system. The amount advanced on account of *takkavi* was Rs. 14,578.

The spirit of the British Indian laws is followed in dispensing civil and criminal justice. There are 8 Courts with one Court of appeal called "Mehakma Khas" or the Darbar Court.

There is a municipality at the capital of the State. The municipal income and expenditure during the year were Rs. 1,053 and 1,215 respectively.

The total actual receipts for the year were Rs. 1,29,721 and the expenditure was Rs. 1,14,580.

Rs. 30,000 were paid during the year towards the liquidation of the Government loan which has now been reduced to Rs. 66,497-12-6.

There is only 1 dispensary in the State maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,684 and it does good work.

Education is slowly progressing in the State. There is only 1 Anglo-Vernacular middle school and 1 primary school in the State. The total expenditure on education was Rs. 1,116, but this will be increased when the State can afford it.

An outagency has lately been started for the conveyance of goods from Sitamau to the Rajputana-Malwa Railway station at Mandsaur.

The administration has been very satisfactory and is ably supervised by His Highness the Raja.

The State has not many natural advantages and is therefore poor. The Gwalior tribute is a heavy burden on it. His Highness the Raja attended the annual meeting of the Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha at Neemuch when he

delivered an eloquent and impressive speech to its members. The Sabha is much indebted to him for his support.

9. *Sailana*.—His Highness Sir Jaswant Singh, K.C.I.E., the Raja of Sailana, takes a very keen interest in the welfare of the Daly Collage and he attended several meetings held at Indore in connection with this institution during the year.

The marriages of His Highness's two elder daughters with the Maharawal of Dungarpur and the Raja of Narsinghgarh were celebrated with great éclat at Sailana, and the marriage parties of the bridegrooms were entertained most hospitably. Another event of note was the birth of a son and heir to the Maharawal of Dungarpur by the first daughter of His Highness of Sailana, and in honour of this occurrence the Chiefs of Ratlam and Jaora were invited to take part in the festivities.

The State liabilities at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 60,000.

Takkavi advances were made to the extent of Rs. 4,000 and Rs. 10,490 were remitted to the cultivators on account of the failure of harvests.

There is no qualified Engineer in the State and the amount spent on public works during the year was only Rs. 3,478 and very little of this was on reproductive or useful works.

There is one Anglo-Vernacular middle school and 8 other primary schools in the State. The annual expenditure on education is only Rs. 1,659, and should be much more to justify His Highness's interest in the subject.

The administration has been satisfactory but is very old-fashioned.

There is no telegraph office in the State.

10. *Piploda*.—The Kamdar, Sajan Mal, having resigned his appointment in May 1907, Mr. R. C. Diké, a pensioner of the Dhar State, was taken on as Kamdar, but he also left the service, and Mr. N. B. Munshi, formerly in the service of the Sailana State, was appointed as Kamdar on the 1st February 1908.

The gross revenue of this Thakurate during the year was Rs. 98,700.

The total liabilities of the Estate on the 31st March 1908 were approximately as under :—

	Rs.
Balance of Gwalior loan	38,000
Balance of Government loan	33,000
Seth Punam Chand Dipchand and others (approximately) .	83,707
	<hr/>
TOTAL . .	1,54,707
	<hr/>

The administration is at present elementary and very little money indeed is devoted to improvements, but it is hoped that when the financial liabilities of the Thakurate are lessened this condition of affairs will be changed. The Thakur is capable and earnest and well qualified to administer his property, which is at present sadly hampered by debt.

11. *Bagli*.—During the year under report, the Estate was managed by a Superintendent under the supervision of the Political Agent. Pandit Ganpat Rao, the Superintendent, having resigned his post, Lala Raśik Behari, formerly Mir Munshi in the Bhopal Political Agency, was appointed as Superintendent from the 6th February 1908, and the change has been very beneficial.

A systematic survey of the Estate has been undertaken along with those of the States of Dewas, Senior and Junior Branches, under the supervision of Mr. A. Pyster. In order to improve the revenue officials of the Estate, a Patwaris' class has been opened in the Estate in which the Kanungos and Patwaris are being trained in their duties.

The local Police force is being reorganised on the lines laid down by the Inspector General of the Central India Agency Police.

The forests in the Estate were managed under the supervision of Mr. J. D. St. Joseph, Chief Forest Officer, Bhopawar Agency. The total forest area consisted of—

Reserved forests 54·06 square miles.

Protected forests 33·6 square miles.

Among the public works undertaken during the year were the survey of the Bagli and Piplia Road and the preparing of plans and estimates for the above road and for the *bunds* at Bamori and Chhota Guraria.

Negotiations are going on for the opening of a combined post and telegraph office at Piplia which is a flourishing centre of trade in the Estate.

The total receipts for the Estate including the opening balance on the 1st June 1907 are calculated to be Rs. 2,68,347 and the expenditure Rs. 1,13,462.

There are two dispensaries, one at Bagli and one at Piplia, and two schools with 111 pupils on the rolls, but the education given is at present very defective.

12. Other Guaranteed Estates.—There is nothing very interesting to note about the smaller guaranteed Estates in the Agency.

The Thakur of Sarwan, who is now about 24 years of age, was removed from the Daly College and placed under the Superintendent, Pandit Hirallal, to learn the work of administration. He has lately married the daughter of the Thakur of Virpur in Kathiawar.

The village of Ghatwas which was for some years past hypothecated with the Sailana Darbar as a security for the repayment of a loan made by that State to Sarwan was restored to the Estate on the latter agreeing to pay Rs. 4,000 per annum with interest at $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. towards the repayment of the loan.

The Thakur of Karaudia, Duley Singh, died on the 27th August 1907, and was succeeded by his son Lakshman Singh, a boy of 8 years of age.

The Estates of Karaudia, Jawasia, and Uni are managed under the direct supervision of the Agency. At the time of the transfer of the Malwa districts to the charge of the Resident at Gwalior, the Estates of Lalgarh and Karaudia were retained pending the decision of the Honourable the Agent to the Governor General as to whether these Estates which have nearly an equal number of villages from Gwalior and Indore should be transferred to the Resident at Gwalior or Indore.

The Estate of Bhatkheri was transferred to the charge of the Resident at Indore during the year under report.

13. Judicial.—There were four criminal appeals against the decision of the Cantonment Magistrate at Neemuch, in two of which the decision of the Lower Court was upheld and in two the accused were discharged.

The number of civil appeals against the decision of the District Judge, Neemuch, was three. Of these two were dismissed and one sent back for further inquiry.

The number of cases tried by the Court of the Political Agent was nine, out of which eight were disposed of and one remained pending at the end of the year. Of six civil suits (railway) filed in the Court of the Political Agent, five were disposed of and one remained pending at the end of the year.

The number of applications for execution of decree was 10, all of which were disposed of.

14. Thagi and Dakaiti.—The number of cases of dakaiti reported during the year was ten. Of these, six were in Gwalior, two in Jaora, and two in Bagli. The total value of property plundered was Rs. 1,85,418 and of that recovered Rs. 4,765.

The Political Agent inspected 270 Moghias during his cold weather tour.

PART III.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

(1) REPORT BY MR. H. G. WATERFIELD, INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN CENTRAL INDIA, ON THE WORKING OF THE CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY POLICE DURING THE YEAR 1907.

1. The sanctioned strength, excluding the District Superintendent, remained as before, 470 of all ranks, and the actual strength showed a shortage of exactly 30 men.

Sanctioned and actual strength on the 1st January 1907. Of these, 7 were places in the 5th grade of Head Constable purposely kept vacant, while of the remainder the majority were vacancies in the lower grades of Constable, due to deaths, resignations, and difficulty of recruiting.

The office of the Inspector-General of Police was held by Mr. H. G. Waterfield throughout the year.

Changes in Establishment.

Mr. F. H. Bigg-Wither held charge, as District Superintendent, from the commencement of the year up to the 8th August 1907 when he proceeded on combined leave preparatory to retirement (he has since retired in the current year) and, as it was found impossible to obtain the services of a gazetted officer, Mr. F. H. Dracott, Inspector of the Mhow Division, was placed in charge of the district and continued to hold charge up to the end of the year, in addition to his own duties.

One Inspector, 2nd grade, was dismissed the service for misconduct.

One probationary Sub-Inspector was confirmed in his appointment.

Eight men retired on pension or gratuities.

Nine recruits were discharged for failing to give correct references for the verification of characters or as unsatisfactory characters.

Six Constables died, one of these from plague.

Seventy-nine men resigned and one deserted.

Twenty-three men were dismissed or discharged for departmental offences, but there was no criminal conviction against a Police officer during the year.

During the year, 154 men were appointed to fill existing vacancies : thus nearly one-third of the total personnel of the force was changed during the year, a fact which in itself would be sufficient to cause a great decrease in efficiency and which was due to the low rates of pay compared to the pay to be obtained in the surrounding British districts and in the Indore State. This shows the urgent necessity for the carrying out of the re-organisation scheme.

2. Despite the constant changes and shortage in strength, crime during the year showed a decrease on the two preceding years, the actual number of cases reported to the Police being 540 as against 608 in 1906.

Of these, 427 were offences against property, against 480 in 1906, and (1) Offences against property. involved a loss estimated at Rs. 22,278-6-10. Of these, 133 cases were

not dealt with, being either transferred, or found to be non-cognizable, false or mistaken, or were refused under section 157, Criminal Procedure Code. There was an increase on last year's figures of 15 such cases.

In the remaining 294 true cases, convictions were obtained in 166 and Rs. 8,623-2 worth of property was recovered (39 per cent.), as against 362

true cases with convictions in 1906 and a recovery of 40 per cent. of property in the year 1906.

Accused persons to the number of 240 were arrested in these cases, and of these 206 were convicted, showing excellent results and careful preparation of cases for Court.

Under sections of the Indian Penal Code dealing with cases other than against property, and of the Criminal Procedure Code, Arms Act, etc., 113

(2) Offences against the person, etc. cases were reported, of which 42 proved to be non-cognizable, false, or were compounded. In the remaining 71 cases, convictions were obtained in 58 cases while 13 remained undetected, as against 83 true cases with 54 convictions in 1906. In these cases, 68 accused persons were arrested, 64 were convicted, 3 were acquitted, and the case of one was pending at the end of the year.

These figures show an improvement on last year's percentages, convictions in cases being 82 per cent. as against 65 per cent. in 1906 and the percentage of persons convicted to persons accused being 94 per cent., figures which show very marked improvement on what were already good results and are evidence of really good work.

Finally of the total number of cases admitted under all headings, viz. 365, it appears that 61 per cent. were prosecuted to conviction. Such a result speaks well for the work of the Divisional Officers. Nowgong, under Sub-Inspector Samiuddin, actually stands first in the order of merit, but Mhow, under Inspector Dracott, though it stands second, deserves equal credit, as it had by far the heaviest crime, while Nimach, where the improvement in working has continued under Inspector Muhammad Yahya, stands a very good third.

3. There was no dakaiti case in the district during the year, but Nimach and Nowgong each had an important murder case, both being well worked.

4. Mr. Bigg-Wither, late District Superintendent of Police, left the district in August, but his good work has continued and the credit for a good year's work is chiefly due to him.

Mr. F. Dracott, Inspector of Mhow, who held charge for the remainder of the year, continued the work on the lines laid down by Mr. Bigg-Wither and has done well under somewhat difficult circumstances.

(2) REPORT BY MR. H. G. WATERFIELD, ASSISTANT TO THE AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN CENTRAL INDIA, CRIMINAL BRANCH, ON THE WORKING OF THE THAGI AND DAKAITI DEPARTMENT IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907.

1. Mr. H. G. Waterfield remained in charge of the Department throughout the year and the strength and general distribution of the force underwent no change.

2. A further satisfactory decrease of dakaiti in Central India is to be noted, 68 cases only being reported for the year as against 90 and 98 cases in the years 1906 and 1905. A decrease also is shown in the value of property looted, being Rs. 61,064 against 68,600 in 1906, while property to the value of Rs. 15,700 was recovered as against Rs. 10,332 worth of property recovered in 1906.

One person was killed and 56 were wounded by dakaits of whom 1,162 are reported as concerned in the above cases; of these 88 only have been arrested with the result that 15 have been convicted, 12 have been discharged, and the results of trial in the remaining cases have not yet been reported.

With the exception of the figures relating to the detection and conviction of persons concerned, the above statement shows a very satisfactory return to normal conditions, a fact on which all States are to be congratulated.

Only one case committed previous to the year under report was brought to light. In this Rs. 187 worth of property was looted by a gang of 10 dakaits Cases of previous years. of whom 1 has been arrested. The result of his trial is awaited.

3. Two cases of poisoning by *dhatoora* were reported from the Indore State where four persons were drugged, Thagi by poisoning. but all recovered. Two accused persons were arrested and one of them was convicted during the year, while the case of other remained pending but has ended in conviction during the current year.

4. At the close of the year 1906, there were 2,327 members of Criminal Tribes on the Central India Agency register.

During the year under report 89 absconded, 47 returned to their settlement, 41 died, 2 were transferred, the names of 3 were expunged, and 136 new names were brought on the register.

The total area of land in the possession of these registered persons at the beginning of the year was 40,742 bighas, and at the end was 46,474 bighas.

Under various sections, 128 criminal cases were committed by members of Criminal Tribes during the year in the various Agencies as below :—

Crime by Criminal Tribes.	Gwalior Agency	24
	Bhopal Agency	26
	Indore Agency	9
	Malwa Agency	21
	Bhopawar Agency	44
	Bundelkhand Agency	4
	TOTAL . . .	128

None of these cases, however, was of dakaiti; nor was any member of the registered Criminal Tribes in Central India convicted during the year of dakaiti.

Of the persons concerned in these cases, 259 were arrested, 114 were convicted, while 55 were discharged, 11 were acquitted, and the remainder were under trial at the close of the year.

On the 1st January 1907 there were 117 registered members of Criminal Tribes confined in jails and during the year 371 others were sent to jail where 169 remained on the 31st December 1907.

5. *Agency details.*—In Gwalior State 30 dakaits occurred during the year and 1 case of 1906 was reported.

Gwalior Agency. Of these cases, 4 are reported by the Resident as being really heavy dakaits. A case of mail robbery took place in the Sheopur pargana and the enquiry into it is proceeding.

No cases of dakaiti were reported during the year from the petty States under the supervision of the Resident at Gwalior.

The Resident brings to notice that the Gwalior Darbar has now opened a Finger Impression Department and will train its own officials who will be sent for examination to the Central India Agency Bureau. No finger impression slips have as yet been received from the Gwalior Darbar.

With regard to Criminal Tribes, the Gwalior Darbar opened famine works for the settlement at Mirkabad and the Resident is of opinion that the Darbar has been liberal in assisting its Moghia settlements.

The Resident remarks that the relations between the Darbar and the Department continue to be excellent and that much good work has been done, and brings to special notice the work of Inspector Dyal Singh, S.B., saying that he "entirely agrees with the remarks made by Mr. Cobb in last year's report" concerning this officer. He also commends the work of the other members of the staff more especially that of Deputy Inspector, B. K. Chiney.

In the Indore State only 8 cases of dakaiti took place as against 18 in the preceding year. The value of property plundered in these cases was Rs. 9,422 Indore Agency. and of this amount recoveries were made to the value of Rs. 8,600. On com-

plainant was wounded and 106 dakaits were said to have been concerned, of whom 17 were arrested and their cases were pending at the end of the year. With the exception of arrests, these figures show a wonderful improvement due to the greatly improved Police Force of the State.

Two cases of poisoning, as already mentioned, occurred in the State during the year.

The control of Criminal Tribes has improved, though the Inspector-General of Police, Indore State, remarks that "experience has shown that none of the resident Criminal Tribes are, as a class, so inherently criminal as the Moghias or so hard to restrain."

The Finger Impression Branch of the State Police continued to be very efficient and did good work.

Only 4 cases of dakaity were reported from this Agency during the year and of these 3 took place in the Bhopal Bhopal Agency. State and the other in the Khilchipur State.

In these cases, property to the value of Rs. 2,719 was plundered, only Rs. 22 worth being recovered, while 29 dakaits were said to have been concerned of whom 10 were arrested, 4 being finally discharged and the remainder being under trial at the end of the year.

The Departmental staff was employed in capturing a gang, chiefly of Moghias, who were committing burglaries in the Bhopal State and Jagirs on the banks of the Parbati.

The Political Agent inspected Moghia settlements during his cold weather tour in which work the Departmental staff was engaged. He remarks that "the condition of the settlements in most of the States under the Bhopal Agency is on the whole satisfactory and shows sign of continued improvement, but an exception must, I fear, be made in the case of Bhopal. The Bhopal authorities openly proclaim their dislike of the system of Moghia settlement and take no trouble whatever to make it a success."

The Political Agent notes that the work of Inspector Afzal Shah and Deputy Inspector Tribhuwan Nath has throughout been entirely satisfactory and commends generally the rest of the Departmental staff which was employed on numerous ordinary police cases in various small Jagirs.

In this Agency 6 cases of dakaity were committed as against 11 in the previous year, viz., 2 in Ajaigarh, 2 in Samthar, and 1 each in Chhattarpur and Orchha.

Property to the value of Rs. 431 was plundered, of which Rs. 176 was recovered, while 58 dakaits were said to have been concerned, 4 only being arrested and under trial at the end of the year.

A mail robbery also occurred in which the Darbar Police of Bijawar, Charkhari, and Chhattarpur were assisted by the Departmental staff but without success.

The Departmental staff also conducted the prosecution in 2 murder cases before the Political Agent and were successful in securing convictions in each case.

The Finger Impression System has been adopted by the States of Orchha, Datia, Charkhari, Bijawar, Panna, and Ajaigarh, but the second and third did not send in any slips.

The Kanjar settlement at Dharampura near Nowgong continued to be managed by the Departmental staff under the direct orders of the Political Agent who remarks that gradual progress is being made in cultivation. The settlement contained at the end of the year 34 families made up of 41 males (above 16), 46 females, and 69 children making a total of 156 or an increase of 26 persons.

The Political Agent observes that Inspector Azam Ali deserves credit for the fact that 11 out of 12 runaways returned to the settlement.

During the year, the case against the Ahrrora gang of dakaits, chiefly of Orchha and Charkhari (mentioned in last year's report), was completed in the Court of the Political Agent, the prosecution being ably conducted to con-

viction by Sardar Bahadur Dyal Singh of the Gwalior Agency, kindly lent for the purpose by the Resident at Gwalior. For his services in connection with this case the Inspector has been presented, in the current year, with a sword of honour by the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India in Darbar on the occasion of the official birthday of His Majesty the King, Emperor of India.

Fourteen cases of dakaati occurred in this Agency and were distributed as follows : 7 in Jhabua, 4 in Dhar, and 1 each in Alirajpur, Nimkhera, and Bhopawar Agency.

Dotria.

This is a further decrease of 5 cases on last year's figures and, considering that scarcity was present in the Bhil country, is a sign of improved police working in the States concerned.

The property plundered amounted to Rs. 898, of which only Rs. 29 worth was recovered. Six complainants were wounded and 182 dakaatis were said to have been concerned, of whom 19 only were arrested, with the result that 7 were convicted, 8 were discharged, and the cases of the remainder were pending at the end of the year.

The Inspector in charge of the Departmental staff had considerable work to do in connection with Moghia settlements and appears to have done his work well.

This Agency only reported 4 cases of dakaati for the year as against 10 cases in 1906 and these occurred, 2 in Malwa Agency. Jaora and 2 in Bagli. In these cases,

6 complainants were wounded and property worth Rs. 5,447 was plundered, a recovery of Rs. 2,125 being made. The dakaatis concerned are reported as 37 in number and only 1 of them was arrested and has been convicted.

The Departmental Deputy Inspector Radha Kishan was employed by the Political Agent to enquire into 3 dakaati cases which had occurred in Gwalior territory and in which the accused had all been traced into adjoining Udaipur territory.

The Political Agent made an extensive inspection of Moghia settlements in which work the Departmental staff was engaged under his orders.

The Political Agent remarks that he is of opinion that "the management of Moghias in the Gwalior State is unsatisfactory and it is the only State of which I have to complain. The subject does not seem to engage the interest of the local officials and I think this defect might be remedied by the appointment by the Gwalior State of a special officer to supervise the settlement of Moghias. This officer might well be authorised to report special cases of neglect to His Highness the Maharaja and that I feel sure could suffice to effect an improvement."

The Departmental staff of the Agency is commended by the Political Agent.

Two cases of dakaati were reported from this Agency during the year, 1 in the Baraundha State and 1 in the Baghelkhand Agency. Sohawal State. In the latter no property was looted and the case appears to have been merely the result of a family feud, the complainants being beaten.

The cases remained untraced at the close of the year. There are no registered Criminal Tribes in this Agency.

6. The special fact to note in regard to the very appreciable decrease in dakaati throughout Central India is General remarks on crime. that the decrease has been general to all Agencies and States and is not attributable to a large decrease in any one or more States. The causes leading to this happy result is a return to more prosperous times and an improvement in police personnel and police working which is to be credited to many States, and which is most satisfactory evidence of the very general improvement in the methods of Government of Central India States.

7. As regards the Department it may be noted that advice and assistance has been more generally sought and given, and everywhere the relations between the States and the Department have become more intimate.

(a) Number of slips on record on the 1st January Finger Print Bureau. 1907	11,408
(b) Received from States for record during the year 1907	2,168
(c) Received for record from British Provinces during the year 1907	479
Total	<u>14,055</u>

(a) Number of slips received for search from British Provinces and States other than of Central India during the year 1907	998
(b) Number of slips received for search from the States in Central India	131
Total	<u>1,129</u>

Number of slips traced during the year 1907 of:—

(a) British Districts	69
(b) States in Central India	14
Total	<u>83</u>

Of the slips forwarded by the States in Central India to the Central India Bureau during the year, 424 were sent to the Simla Bureau for permanent record. The number includes 193 slips of Chanderbedis from the Gwalior and Bhopal States.

Candidates to undergo a course of training at the Central India Agency Bureau were received from different States in Central India as below and the results have been on the whole satisfactory:—

(1) Candidates from States in Central India	7
(2) Candidates from the Central India Agency Police including one passed with credit	9
(3) Candidates from the Central India Agency Jail	1
(4) Candidates of the Central India Agency office (including one passed with credit)	2
Total	<u>19</u>

(5) Number of cases in which an expert of the Central Bureau, Central India, gave evidence to prove previous convictions in the Court of the Cantonment Magistrate at Mhow	1
Total	<u>1</u>

Deputy Inspector Kirpal Singh, in charge of the Finger Print Bureau, has continued to work well and hard.

8. The head-quarters staff has worked well and the conduct of the force at head-quarters was good. Inspector Head-quarters Makbul Shah Ahmed in charge of the line and office has given complete satisfaction. He is hard working and tactful.

9. I may note that this report is, in all probability, the last that will be made under its present old and well-known heading. The last remnant of the old Thagi and Dakaiti Department, which has done so much honourable service for so many years, is about to become incorporated, in Central India, with the Agency Police Department as a regular unit of that Force and will henceforth be known only as the Criminal Branch of that Department.

* The correct figures are 11,408 and not 17,408 as shown in the annual report for 1906. The figures under (c) should have been 904 and not 6,904.

As the last officer of the old Department and connected with it in Central India for the last 13 years, I note the final passing of a Department which has done much good work for India.

(3) REPORT BY BREVET-COLONEL W. W. BAKER, R.E., SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER AND SECRETARY IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN CENTRAL INDIA, ON IMPERIAL PUBLIC WORKS IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. Owing to the re-organization of the Public Works Department, the Nagod Division was abolished with effect from the 16th June 1907. Public Works in the Bundelkhand Agency have been managed by the Civil Officer (the Political Agent in Bundelkhand) with the assistance of the State Engineer, Bundelkhand States; while works in the Baghelkhand Agency have been carried out by a sub-overseer under the direct supervision of the Superintending Engineer in Central India. As in previous years, works in the Gwalior State have been done under the direction of the Superintending Engineer, Roads and Buildings, Gwalior State.

2. The actual realizations of revenue in 1907-08 were as follows :—

	Rs.
XXX—Minor Works and Navigation	2,384
XXXII—Civil Works	22,744
Total	<u>25,128</u>

against Rs. 17,878 under Civil Works only in the previous year.

3. The total outlay on Imperial Public Works, including the outlay on 35 and 43—Irrigation Works, amounted to Rs. 8,28,939 as against Rs. 6,09,220 for 1906-07. The expenditure is detailed below :—

	Budget grant.	Revised Estimate	Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
33.—Famine Relief . . . . .	..	12,000	889
35.—Construction—Protective Irrigation Works .	60,000	65,000	65,246
43.—Minor Works and Navigation	2,000	2,000	884
45.—Civil Works—Civil Buildings	3,95,700	3,77,970	3,98,528
Ditto Communications	1,86,300	2,46,234	2,39,585 !
Miscellaneous public improvements . . . . .	..	..	..
Establishment	1,32,963	1,18,500	1,18,091
Tools and Plant	28,500	13,296	8,473
Suspense	5,537	..	243
	8,11,000	8,35,000	. 8,28,939

4. Additional expenditure was incurred under :—

	Rs.
Military Works (Imperial)	14,124
Contributions	4,383
Local Funds, etc.	2,37,017
Total Public Works Expenditure	<u>10,84,463</u>

5. The most important of the Major Works in hand during the year are shewn in the following table :—

Name of work.	Amount of Estimate.	Expenditure during 1907-08.	Total expenditure to date.	REMARKS.
<i>Civil Buildings.</i>				
1. Construction of quarters to complete the accommodation for the present Police force at Indore	Rs. 31,430	Rs. 14,091	Rs. 30,537	In progress.
2. Construction of quarters to complete the accommodation for the present Police force at Mhow	42,614	18,138	18,138	Do.
3. Additions and alterations to Indore Residency	1,21,841	25,940	25,940	Do.
4. Combined residence and office for the Excise Commissioner at Indore	33,385	15,205	15,205	Do.
5. New Daly College at Indore	10,50,000	2,00,381	2,53,732	Do.
6. Circuit House at Sipri	18,081	10,610	15,611	Do.
<i>Communications.</i>				
7. Improvements to the ghat portion of the Agra-Bombay Road	17,386	1,562	1,562	Do.
<i>Local Funds Works.</i>				
8. New Daly College at Indore	10,50,000	4,167	42,049	{ Contribution Imperial. } In progress.
		2,00,381	2,53,732	
		2,04,548	2,95,781	
* 9. Constructing Jhabua-Meghnagar Road	95,847	1,615	88,813	Completed.
10. Constructing spirit ware houses at Mhow and Nowgong	12,486	7,535	7,535	In progress.

* Shown in the report for 1906-07.

Of the works mentioned in last year's report but not shown in this, the construction of the new Dispensary at Manpur is still in progress and the following have been completed :—

- (1) Third Assistant's Bungalow at Indore.
- (2) Additions and alterations to the Agency Office at Sutna.
- (3) Conversion of the Native Cavalry Hospital at Nowgong into a Native Infantry Hospital.
- (4) Additions and alterations to the escort barracks at Indore.
- (5) Quarters for the Sub-Divisional Officer at Sehore.
- (6) New Store-yard and Storekeeper's quarters at Indore.

Under " Communications ", the improvements to the Mandsaur-Sitamau road has been completed; while the work on miles 40 and 41 of the Agra-Bombay road has not yet been finished.

6. The Government of India sanctioned a grant-in-aid. of Rs. 14,000 for the restoration work of the Khajaraha Temples in Chhatarpur. The work has been carried on to the extent that funds permitted during the year.

7. The subjoined statement gives the total length of roads maintained by the Imperial Public Works Department during 1907-08.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION.	LENGTH OF ROADS IN MILES.			REMARKS.
	Metalled.	Unmetalled.	Total.	
Indore Division	470	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	473 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Bundelkhand Agency	184	..	184	
Baghelkhand Agency	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	

(4) REPORT BY MR. H. MARSH, C.I.E., CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION IN CENTRAL INDIA, ON PROTECTIVE IRRIGATION WORKS IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. As explained in the report for 1906-07, the energies of the surveying staff had been concentrated during that cold weather on the Sindh River Canal project. The observations were well advanced by the end of April, but it was necessary to maintain part of the staff on the Doab throughout the hot weather of 1907. They had to complete gaps in cross levels, dig trial pits, fix bench marks, and furnish information that was found necessary during the preparation of the plans and designs.

2. In the beginning of August, the project was so near completion that I was enabled to place it in the rough before a meeting of Political Officers held at Indore on the 13th of that month. A preliminary memorandum explaining the scope, and cost of the scheme was distributed to the Political Officers and their advice and criticisms were invited. The general plans were also exhibited for examination. The project received the approval of the meeting, and I was advised to address the Darbars of Gwalior, Indore, and Datia on the subject of the finance, execution, and administration of the proposed irrigation canal system.

3. September and October were mostly spent in completing the scheme and getting the report, estimate, and drawings through the press. During the early part of November, I re-visited the important reaches of the proposed canal, with the object of satisfying myself on certain drainage questions and weir alignments.

4. On the 20th November I attended a second meeting of Political Officers at Indore, and was enabled to present each Political Officer with the printed report of the Sindh River Canal project.

5. From Indore I went to Bhopal. Her Highness the Begum expressed a wish that I should make another tour in her territory. Mr. Austin Cook, Irrigation Assistant Engineer, had brought plans of the proposed Asta Canal, which I examined. Further inspection was found necessary. I had hoped to travel out to Asta for a few days examination of the Parbati River, but this part of the programme had to be postponed on account of transport difficulties.

6. Early in December, the proposed alignment of the Chhatarpur Canal from the Upper Dhassan and its Katni affluent was re-examined, in company with Mr. Scott and his Surveyors. The country was very difficult, and though a certain area could be commanded and much benefit would be secured, I did not think the project promising enough to pursue. The survey was therefore stopped and the staff ordered to proceed to the investigation of the Upper Ken and Biarmi projects.

7. In the latter half of December, I met the Inspector-General of Irrigation at Jbansi, and we visited the first 20 miles of the proposed Sindh River Canal. Our tour was facilitated by the kind arrangements ordered by His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior. Mr. Benton spent four days on the

inspections, examined all the contoured maps of the Doab, and detailed designs of the works. He thought the country very suitable for irrigation and was of opinion that the scheme* was adapted to the circumstances.

8. January and February were spent in visiting the tracts which are commanded by the Upper Ken and Biarmi Rivers. To accomplish this examination, considerable distances had to be travelled at slow rates. The net result of the inspection was that three canals were reconnoitred and surveys commenced.

9. It is proposed to throw a dam across the confluence of the Ken and Gurni Rivers, which have at that point a gathering area of 750 square miles and a probable yield of 20,000 million cubic feet. From the resulting reservoir the proposed Powai Canal will emerge and command some 60 square miles of good land in Panna and Bijawar States, where rice and rabi are

	Rs.
* Estimated cost	93,23,615.
Estimated irrigated area . .	1,40,000 Acres.
Estimated gross revenue . .	5,05,000 Rs.
Estimated working expenses . .	1,20,000
Net Return 4½ per cent.	

cultivated, but frequently fail. Probably 25,000 acres would be irrigated by the canal which can be laid out with great ease.

10. The Pagara Canal will take out of the same Reservoir and run along the right bank of the River. It will command some 70 square miles of Panna, Ajaigarh, and Bijawar States. Probably 30,000 acres would be irrigated by it. This scheme will be more difficult to lay out, as the country is not a continuous flat reach, and there is a good deal of rolling land in it. However good command can be obtained by winding distributaries, carefully aligned. They will save much rhee and rabi. In existing eireumstances these crops frequently fail.

11. It is also proposed to throw another dam across the Biarmi River at Kotah. The site is excellent and there is a gathering area of some 1,200 square miles. From it a yield of 30,000 million cubic feet may be expected. The proposed Semaria Canal will command about 100 square miles of good land in Panna, Bijawar, and Ajaigarh States, which at present are cultivated for unproteeted rhee and rabi. Some sugarcane is also produced close to small tanks and streams. Probably 40,000 aeres would be irrigated in the year. This area would only require 4,000 million cubie feet, so that the scheme would in no way prevent the Central Provincees from carrying out a similar Canal on the left bank of the River. Indeed it would be an excellent thing for both Administrations to combine and make a weir high enough to contain suffieient water for both Canals.

12. I visited Bhopal in March and carried out the inspection of the Parbati River above Asta, to which reference is also made in paragraph 5. The valley was closely examined and three sites for dams were fixed for Mr. Cook's surveys. I hope to get these soon and will then submit detailed schemes. The dams will cause a renewal of much lift irrigation, which has been falling off year by year. If there is plenty of water, a Canal might also be carried out. It would protect about 20,000 acres. I have got all the necessary data and maps for this latter scheme and will now elaborate it.

13. Between the 21st and 24th March, I stayed at Jaipur in order to consult Sir Swinton Jacob on various matters. He drew my attention to the instructive Public Works Report of the Jaipur State, 1906-07. On page 81 it sums up the result of constructing 221 tanks, costing a capital sum of Rs. 64,42,145. In the year under review these works matured an area of 48,013 aeres, which brought in a revenue of Rs. 4,71,370. The gross return is equivalent to 7.31 per cent. This is a result and I should like to bring it to the notice of Darbars, who are considering the subject of outlay on Irrigation Works.

There is another point to be learnt from this report. It shows that though tanks are a remunerative, sound, and proper investment, they take a long time to develop irrigation. Thus in Jaipur during 35 years a capital outlay of 66 lakhs was incurred, and then a maximum area of 45,000 acres was secured.

Comparing these figures with those of the Ken Canal, which was sanctioned in 1903, and was ready to run in August 1907, we find that 40 lakhs were spent on its construction during those four years, but that after six months, it irrigated 66,000 acres. The value of the crops matured in this one year of drought must have nearly equalled the entire capital outlay.

Therefore it may be assumed that where a capacious canal can be made from a large river, its beneficial influence will be felt comparatively quickly. Had the Sindh River Canal been ready in last August, it would probably have irrigated 2,00,000 aeres during the kharif and rabi seasons of 1907-08.

14. During the official year 1908-09, I hope to elaborate the projects of the—

Powai Canal from the Ken River.

Pagara Canal from the Ken River.

Semaria Canal from the Biarmi River.

Asta Canal from the Parbati River.

This work will absorb the hot weather.

During the cold weather it is intended to visit the southern part of Bhopal territory, and the Indore and Bhopawar Agencies with a view to examining proposals of Mr. Bosanquet and Major Beville.

(5) REPORT BY MR. J. H. COX, I.C.S., EXCISE COMMISSIONER IN CENTRAL INDIA, ON EXCISE ADMINISTRATION IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. The Gwalior Darbar have, as was anticipated in paragraph 3 of last year's report, submitted a representation asking for the approval by the Government of India of certain measures intended

The States internal reforms
Hemp drugs in Gwalior.

to secure the co-operation in excise and customs reforms of the feudatories whose holdings are scattered about the territories of the Darbar. That representation is under the consideration of the Government of India and, until their orders are received, no reforms of any importance or presenting any difficulty are likely to be effected by the Gwalior Darbar. It is understood, however, that a State monopoly in ganja has been created, the entire crop being purchased by the Darbar and subsequently sold to licensed vendors on payment of a duty in addition to its price.

2. The Indore Darbar have decided on restricting the cultivation of ganja to the Sanawad pargana and on establishing at Sanawad a bonded ware-

Hemp drugs in Indore.

house where the cultivator will be required to deposit his produce. The conduct of business at the warehouse will be regulated by provisions very similar to those in force at Khandwa. An excise duty of Rs. 2 per seei and an export duty of annas 6 per seer will be levied at the outset. The Darbar have sanctioned the estimates for the warehouse, and the rules regulating cultivation and the conduct of business at the warehouse will be considered at an early meeting of Council.

3. The Dewas Darbar are considering proposals that have been made to them for securing control of the ganja produced within the State.

Hemp drugs in Dewas.

4. The Bhopal Darbar have prohibited the cultivation of hemp drugs, which are now imported, after payment of duty, by licensed vendors or contractors paying license fees determined by auction. The Darbar have, it is believed, found this reform beneficial to their revenues.

5. The States of Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand have prohibited the cultivation of the poppy and of the hemp plant. They have also agreed to the adoption of a uniform system of taxation

Opium and hemp drugs in Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand.

of opium and hemp drugs. The possession of those commodities without a permit or license and their sale to one person at one time in quantities exceeding certain specified limits will be prohibited. Sale will be permitted only by licensed vendors or contractors paying to the Darbars fees determined by auction. Such vendors and contractors will be allowed to import hemp drugs under permits, which will be granted on payment of quantitative duties levied on a scale uniform throughout the two Agencies. These arrangements were to take effect from the 1st April 1908 in Baghelkhand and from the 1st July 1908 in Bundelkhand.

6. The States situated on the west of the Indian Midland Railway are considering proposals that have been made to them for the adoption, in regard to hemp drugs, of measures similar to those mentioned in paragraph 5

Hemp drugs in other States.

7. On the west of the Indian Midland Railway, measures for the control of the opium crop must necessarily await the initiative of the larger States. The Gwalior Darbar are, as has been stated in paragraph 1, awaiting the orders of the Government of India on a representation regarding the measures that

Opium in Malwa.

will be necessary in order to secure control in feudatory areas. This point is one which, in connection with opium, will present the gravest difficulties in almost every State in Malwa. The Indore Darbar are considering suggestions that have been made to them, but are unlikely to arrive at any decision until questions connected with the question of feudatories have been decided. The Bhopal Darbar, who have the advantage of possessing compact territories not interspersed with the holdings of feudatories, propose, it is understood, to adopt, this year, measures that will constitute a step towards securing the control of the opium crop and the levy of taxation from local consumption. But they will, and indeed must, proceed very slowly and cautiously, as it is essential that they should avoid such interference with the course of business as might have effects disastrous to their cultivation and to their export trade. It seems possible, however, that they may decide to prohibit scattered opium cultivation in their eastern districts and to concentrate it in the west of the State where it is most prevalent and most productive.

8. The air of Malwa is at present full of rumours regarding the future of the China trade, and it seems probable that a considerable contraction of the area cultivated with opium will be the result partly of natural causes and partly of artificial restrictions on the export trade. The States are consequently far more apprehensive than they would otherwise be of the possible consequences of interference with a hitherto profitable trade, which they regard as generally on the decline, and for the continuance of which, within its own territories, each desires to afford every possible facility and encouragement. For similar reasons the present is a time at which it would be eminently injudicious to press the Darbars to adopt any reforms that do not commend themselves to their intelligence. The contraction of cultivation which seems inevitable could hardly fail to be attributed to those reforms, and to lead to their abandonment. And their failure would render the Darbars extremely reluctant to accept advice emanating from the same source in regard to other subjects. The progress of reform in regard to opium must necessarily be slow, and it is in the direction of concentration of cultivation in the most productive areas that most advance is to be looked for in the near future.

9. The Indore Darbar have adopted the contract distillery system in the areas surrounding Mhow and Indore, and are so satisfied with the results that they contemplate its early extension to the

Contract distillery system, Indore. whole of the Indore district and to the more accessible portions of the Nimar district. With a view to these changes they have invited, and are at present considering, tenders for supply.

10. The Barwani State, which was the first in Central India to adopt Barwani. this system, has obtained the most gratifying results. It has now dispensed with the minimum guarantee and auctioned its licenses in the ordinary way.

11. The Jhabua Darbar introduced, during the year, a system intended Jhabua. to pave the way to the introduction of the contract distillery system, by placing their central distillery under control, and levying a quantitative duty on issues.

The Bhopal Darbar have adopted similar measures and, though the duty Bhopal. is little more than a registration fee, the mechanical arrangements for securing control over the output are perfectly satisfactory. In both cases the knowledge that the Darbar will acquire, regarding the consumption in different parts of the State, will assist them greatly in introducing the contract distillery system.

12. The States in the west of the Bhopawar Agency have decided on the Bhopawar Agency. adoption of this system with effect from 1st April 1909, and are endeavouring to secure its success and to avert friction hereafter by negotiating with each other and with the adjoining States of the Rewa Kantha Agency for the formation of a shopless zone on either side of the border.

13. In the Malwa Agency one Chief was apprehensive lest the necessary co-operation with his neighbours should lead to the loss of his administrative

isolation and independence. The rulers of the other States concerned, including His Highness the Maharaja Scindia and the Indore Darbar, seemed not indisposed to co-operate to the extent necessary to enable this reform to be introduced. But the unwillingness of one Chief to join in the scheme precludes the co-operation of another ruler whose territories are interlaced with his and, without the co-operation of these two States, it would hardly be practicable to introduce the system in the remaining areas of the Agency.

14. The most serious practical obstacles to the introduction of this system in many parts of Central India are the defective communications, the sparseness of the population, and the scattered situation of the areas to be served. The adoption of the system involves either the maintenance of numerous distilleries or the transport of spirit to distant places over indifferent roads. The cost of transporting 80 or 100 miles by road the weak spirit (60 U.P.), which is the ordinary product of the local distiller, is practically prohibitive, while the cost of obtaining strong spirit from such establishments as the Katni, Kamptee, or Cawnpore distilleries is almost equally great. It is hoped, however, that the difficulty will be surmounted by the use of a simple rectifying apparatus suitable for use with mahua and for application to the ordinary Bombay still. Such an apparatus is on its trial, on a commercial scale, at the Indore distillery and is giving satisfactory results producing, without extra cost, spirit 25 U.P. at the first distillation and spirit from 50 to 30 O.P. at the second distillation.

15. The Darbars have been invited, through Political Agents, to accept the principle of the shopless zone on either side of the border. Some of them

The shopless zone.
have signified their acceptance of the principle and a certain amount has been done in the direction of securing the removal of objectionable shops. Endeavours are being made to secure, from the removal of such shops, more permanent benefit than it has been possible to derive from similar removals in the past. The licenses and contracts granted by the States did not specify, with sufficient exactness, the places at which sale was permitted, and the closure of a shop at one place was only too apt to be followed by the opening of another at a little distance. The necessity for specifying precisely in all licenses the places at which the business covered by the license must be conducted has now been pointed out to the Darbars and appears to be appreciated by some of them at all events. It remains to convince the Darbars that in this, as in other matters, occasional sacrifices are necessary in order to enable the contracting parties to secure the full benefits of co-operation. At present the loss of revenue occasioned by the closure of a border shop, within his own territories, bulks far more largely in the perspective of many a ruler than the injury that its existence causes to the revenues of his neighbour. The practical application of the principle of the shopless zone is consequently apt to be deprived of much of its value by the retention, as exceptions to the rule, of a far larger number of shops than it is really to the joint interest of the contracting parties to retain.

16. Special attention has been paid to the cases of island villages which are situate within the limits of the British Provinces. Progress in this direction was not expected to be rapid. The Chiefs are naturally averse from any

surrender or curtailment of their prerogatives such as would be involved in the actual lease of excise privileges to an alien administration. But in the case of island villages almost equally satisfactory results can be obtained by means of an agreement—revocable after due notice—to prohibit the production and sale of excisable commodities and to leave the inhabitants of the area affected to purchase their supplies from the shops licensed by the surrounding administration, in the same way and under the same conditions as the subjects of that administration. The Political Agent in Bundelkhand has succeeded in inducing several of his Darbars to give undertakings of this character in respect of their island villages; and the Bhopal Darbar have expressed their

readiness to do so in respect to a small group of villages forming a promontory almost surrounded by British India. In some cases such an arrangement may be found impracticable by reason of the area to be dealt with being too large to admit of its inhabitants obtaining their supplies from shops situated beyond its borders. But it is a distinct step in advance that any Chief exercising full powers should have consented to such measures as have been described and further progress in similar directions may reasonably be hoped for.

17. The Darbars have been supplied with drafts in Hindi of the simplest possible laws and rules for the regulation of dealings in spirits, opium, and

Codification of law and rules. hemp drugs and those, who desired more elaborate regulations or needed help in modifying the general drafts to suit local requirements, have received such further assistance or advice as they required.

18. Conferences of excise officials of the Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand States were held at Nowgong and Sutna Conferences and discussions. in July 1907, and in January 1908 an

unofficial meeting of officers of some of the leading States of Central India was held at Indore for the discussion of questions relating to co-operation in excise reform. The officers who attended accorded a very encouraging reception to the suggestions propounded for their consideration. Apart from such formal gatherings, excise problems were discussed, orally or through the medium of correspondence, with the rulers and excise officials of a considerable number of States.

19. By the courtesy of the Excise Commissioners of surrounding provinces, a course of training in distillery and excise work was provided for 14 Training of excise officers.

officials deputed by States in Central India and for 3 private candidates for employment in Native States, while 4 officials received a training in the control of the ganja crop and in the management of warehouses. Brief memoranda dealing with various points of excise administration were also circulated for the information of excise officials and Darbars.

20. It is fully recognized that the measures mentioned in the last three paragraphs will, in many cases, be productive of no immediate and visible results. Between the acceptance of abstract principles and their practical application much time will, in some cases, elapse. But the dissemination of information regarding excise subjects and the creation of a body of officials possessing some knowledge of practical excise work can not fail to have an educational value and, ultimately, to make some impression on the excise administration of the States. It is hoped shortly to furnish the Principal of the Daly College with a simple treatise on excise subjects which may possibly be of use to the administrative class.

21. The contract distillery system was introduced in the Mhow Cantonment and the Indore Residency Bazars British Areas with effect from the 1st October 1907. Country spirit.

The financial results have been most satisfactory. License fees for the year will amount at Mhow to Rs. 75,487, while still head duty should realize, despite unfavourable seasonal conditions, not less than Rs. 35,000, against a total sum of Rs. 90,052-8-5 realized under old system. Next year's settlements are likely to be less satisfactory. There was much over-speculation at the auctions held in 1907 and though, in the course of eliminating candidates of doubtful solvency, the license fees originally offered were enormously reduced, and have been further reduced by certain remissions subsequently granted, they are still distinctly high. The trade have, moreover, suffered from a bad season and from the encroachments of the Darbar contractors, who were permitted to establish their shops on the edge of the Cantonment. The removal of some of the more objectionable shops has been secured and negotiations for the closure of all shops within three miles of the Cantonment are in progress. But, even if these negotiations are successful, it will probably take a year or two before license fees rise again to the level that they have reached this year; though it is probable that there will be an appreciable increase in the income from still head duty.

In the Cantonment and Civil Lines of Nowgong the contract distillery system was introduced with effect from the 1st February 1908. Arrangements were also made for its application to the Manipur pargana with effect from the 1st April 1908.

22. Arrangements were completed during the year for the introduction at Nowgong of arrangements similar to those described in paragraph 5 and

the new system will be introduced on the 1st July 1908. Other reforms in British areas must await the expiry of existing contracts and the action of the Darbars by which those areas are surrounded.

23. Certain necessary amendments of the Mhow, Neemuch, and Nowgong Excise Law, 1898, and of the Indore Residency Bazar Excise Law, 1904, were sanctioned by the Government of India during the year, and further proposals intended to remove certain inconsistencies and anomalies in the latter law are under the consideration of Government. Rules regulating the disposal of licenses for the sale of country spirit, opium, and hemp drugs and the management of business at warehouses for the storage of country spirit received the sanction of Government, and drafts of rules regulating the sale of foreign spirit and the import and warehousing of opium and hemp drugs are under their consideration.

(6) REPORT ON THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. The table below, giving the quantity of opium exported and the amount of pass duty realized during the year, shows a considerable increase when compared with the figures for 1905-06 and 1906-07 :—

		1905-06.	1906-07.	1907-08.
Number of chests	{ Imperial . . .	14,598 $\frac{1}{4}$	13,127	16,849
	Provincial . . .	685	428	463
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Duty realized	{ Imperial . . .	87,59,100	78,76,200	1,01,00,400
	Provincial . . .	4,79,500	2,99,600	3,24,100

106 $\frac{1}{2}$ Chests of provincial opium were passed free of duty as against 81 $\frac{1}{2}$ chests in 1906-07.

2. The increase in exports to China is attributed (a) to the rumour having gained currency among the opium traders of Malwa, that the Government duty on opium would be raised from Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 per chest with effect from the 1st April 1908; and (b) to the restriction of the exports of Malwa opium to 15,100 chests during the calendar year 1908.

There is also a slight increase in Provincial (duty paid and duty free) exports as compared with last year.

3. The duty of Rs. 600 a chest on exports to China and of Rs. 700 a chest on Provincial exports remained unchanged.

4. *Stocks and Out-turn.*—The stock in hand is estimated at about 20,000 chests of old and 30,000 chests of new opium.

The out-turn of the season 1907-08 is estimated at about 24,000 chests.

5. The wiring and sealing of chests was introduced at all scales throughout the Agency. The scales were also provided with a number of pans of uniform weight, the use of which enables exporters to protect their opium from much of the injury in handling of which they formerly complained. At the Indore scales the Deputy Opium Agent and the Excise Commissioner have, since November 1907, performed detailed weighments as frequently as has been possible without detriment to the discharge of their other duties.

6. Arrangements for the check weighment at Ratlam of all opium exported to Bombay were approved by the Government of India and the erection of the requisite buildings and the necessary modifications of the Bombay Opium Rules are in progress.

(7) REPORT BY MR. C. CURRIE, OFFICIATING DEPUTY POSTMASTER-GENERAL, RAJPUTANA AND CENTRAL INDIA, ON THE WORKING OF THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT IN CENTRAL INDIA DURING THE YEAR 1907-08.

1. Mr. W. T. Van Someren, C.I.E., held charge of the circle from the 1st April 1907 to the 17th February 1908 and Mr. C. Currie was in charge for the rest of the year.

2. *Extensions.*—The total number of Post Offices open on the 31st March 1908 in the Central India portion of this circle was 178, viz., 2 Head Offices, 38 Sub-offices, and 138 Branch Offices, as against 117; viz., 3 Head, 29 Sub, and 85 Branch Offices, on the 31st March 1907.

3. *Letter Boxes.*—Twenty-four letter boxes were opened and 3 closed during the year and there were 100 letter boxes existing on the 31st March 1908 as compared with 79 in the previous year.

4. *Mail Lines.*—The distance over which mails were conveyed by Railway increased, owing to the opening of the Nagda-Muttra Railway and in consequence of the transfer of the Sanawad Post Office from the Central Provinces to this Circle. The runners' line from Indore to Goona—a distance of 177 miles—was closed and mail cart service was substituted over a distance of 80 miles. A portion of the runners' line from Agar (Malwa) to Jhalrapatan was closed; and several mail lines were opened in consequence of the opening of new Post Offices in connection with the Postal Unity with the Holkar State.

5. *Postal Unity.*—On the 1st March 1908, with the consent of the Darbar, Postal Unity was introduced in the Holkar State. It was an important measure comprising the opening of 53 new Imperial Post Offices and 571 miles of main line. The State abolished its indigenous postal system and a free grant of Rs. 25,000 worth of Service Stamps was conceded to it.

6. The following is a comparative statement of articles sent out for delivery by Post Offices in the Central India portion of this circle and of money orders issued and paid:—

Year.	Letter mail articles.	Parcel mail articles.	Number of money orders issued.	Amount of money orders issued.	Number of money orders paid.	Amount of money orders paid.
1906-07 . . .	5,672,204	58,999	168,700	Rs. 38,59,333	48,799	Rs. 13,12,192
1907-08 . . .	5,320,657	57,904	176,127	Rs. 36,93,011	53,051	Rs. 13,87,251
Difference .	—351,547	—1,095	+7,427	—1,66,342	+ 4,252	+75,059

The percentage of increase and decrease is as follows:—

Letter mail articles	6·6	Decrease.
Parcel mail articles	1·8	"
Number of money orders issued	4·4	Increase.
Amount of " " "	4·5	Decrease.
Number of money orders paid	8·7	Increase.
Amount of " " "	5·7	"

7. *Insured and value-payable articles and ordinary parcels posted.*—The following table gives the figures for the year under review as compared with those for the preceding year :—

Year.	Insured articles.	Value of insured articles.	Value-payable articles.	Amount specified for recovery.	Ordinary parcels registered.	Ordinary parcels unregistered.
1906-07 . . .	5,677	Rs 18,96,790	6,445	Rs 1,60,472	13,257	2,512
1907-08 . . .	7,878	20,69,941	6,601	2,41,076	15,105	2,857
Difference . . .	+2,201	+1,73,151	+159	+80,604	+1,848	+345

The percentage of increase and decrease is as follows :—

Insured articles	38 7	Increase.
Value of insured articles	9 1	"
Value-payable articles	2 4	"
Amount specified for recovery	50 2	"
Ordinary parcels registered	13 9	"
" " unregistered	13 7	"

8. *Highway Robberies.*—No case of highway robbery occurred in the Central India portion of the circle during the year under review.

9. *Salt.*—The number of offices authorised to receive indents from traders for the purchase of salt from the Government Salt Depôt at Sambhar and Pachbadra remained unaltered. Twenty-six Post Offices in Central India received indents for salt.

10. *Quinine.*—The sale of quinine at Post Offices in the Central India Agency during the year under review and the preceding year is noted below :—

1906-07	20,365	Seven grain powders.
1907-08	16,370	Ditto.

The powders sold during the year under review represent nearly 16½ lbs. of the drug valued at Rs. 255-9-11 as against 20½ lbs. of the drug valued at Rs. 332-6-7 in the previous year. The sales by village postmen numbered 686 powders as against 803 powders in the preceding year.

11. *Postal Telegraph.*—One Combined Office, viz., Sanawad, was transferred during the year from the Central Provinces and one at Bag was closed. Eighteen Combined Offices were open on the 31st March 1908. These offices received 66,640 and sent 53,621 messages yielding a revenue to the Telegraph Department of Rs. 27,453-9-0, as against 59,669 messages received and 50,087 messages sent yielding a revenue to the Telegraph Department of Rs. 25,509-14-0 in the preceding year.

The number of receiving Post Offices in the Central India portion of this circle, at which telegrams were booked by the public and sent by post to the nearest Telegraph Office for transmission by wire, was 23. These offices booked 1,895 messages representing a revenue of Rs. 825-4-0.

12. *Tours.*—No camp Post Office accompanied the Honourable the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India on tour during the year.

13. *Temporary Post Office.*—No temporary Post Office was opened for the Military Manceuvre camp during the year under review.

14. *Theft by postal servants.*—During the year under review 1 case of theft by postal servants occurred in the Central India portion of the circle.

15. *Frauds in connection with service postage stamps.*—During the year under review there were six cases of misuse of service stamps.

16. *Burglaries.*—No case of burglary or house-breaking occurred during the year.

17. *Miscellaneous.*—Plague of a mild type broke out in some parts of Central India but there were no deaths among postal officials. Three Post Offices had to be removed, two in tents and one in hut.

18. *Concluding remarks.*—As in past years, I have the pleasure to record that the relations of the Department with the various Darbars have continued of the same cordial character.

(8) REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1907-08 ON THE CENTRAL INDIA AGENCY JAIL, BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. ROBERTS, M.B., I.M.S.

1. The number of prisoners imprisoned in the Central India Agency Jail at Indore, inelusive of those admitted during the previous years, was 429, of whom 164 were still in jail at the end of the year. The corresponding figures for the other British Jails in Central India were 636 and 87.

In the Central India Agency Jail the daily average number of prisoners was 154 and the average cost per prisoner was Rs. 110-7-10 a year.

2. The usual annual repairs to the buildings were executed by the Public Works Department. The buildings are all in good order.

3. The prisoners have been employed in durry weaving, in stone polishing, in corn grinding, in aloë fibre pounding, and in extramural labour in connection with the garden.

4. The out-turn of articles manufactured in the Jail was Rs. 2,369-0-4 (*vide* subjoined statement).

5. The entire expenditure during the year has exceeded the Budget allotment by Rs. 2,146-12-2 owing to the high price of grain.

6. The general health of prisoners has been good. The total number of prisoners treated in the Jail Hospital as indoor patients was 361, of whom 4 died. This is a comparatively high mortality, but is due not to epidemic or preventable diseases but to the average mortality extending over years, one year being higher than another : thus in 1904-05 there were no deaths and in 1905-06 three deaths.

Food of good quality has been supplied to the prisoners.

Sufficient and suitable clothing has been issued to the prisoners. All clothing is made in the Jail, including warders' uniforms.

7. The Jailer, Nasiruddin Ahmed, has maintained discipline well and shown himself a hardworking and competent Jailer. The conduct of the other jail officials has been satisfactory.

Statement showing receipts and charges on account of Jail manufactures and convict labour for the year 1907-08.

	JAIL MANUFACTURES.										
	RE EPTS.			CHARGES.			Profits paid into the Treasury.				
	Amount realized for articles sold.		Raw materials and contingencies.								
April 1907	Rs. 358	A. 10	P. 3	Rs. 228	A. 5	P. 6	Rs.		A.		P.
May "	96	9	8	10	11	3					
June "	40	14	3	217	1	9					
July "	247	7	..	23	6	3					
August "	394	4	6	61	12	6					
September "	104	14	2	384	12	1					
October "	153	2	11	82	8	6					
November "	74	6	11	112	8	6					
December "	94	5	6	204	11	6					
January 1908	202	6	..	151	7	..					
February "	115	..	4	97	2	..					
March "	486	14	10	174	14	..					
Total .	2,369	..	4	1,749	4	10	619	11	6		

NOTE.—For information as to jails in Native States in Central India, see the annual report of the Administrative Medical Officer for 1907.

APPENDIX No. I—Judicial Returns.

(a) Comparative Statement showing the number, value, duration, and cost of suits instituted in the British Courts in Central India during the years 1906-07 and 1907-08.

YEAR.	NUMBER OF SUITS FILED.		Value of suits disposed of.	DURATION OF SUITS DISPOSED OF.		COST OF SUITS DISPOSED OF.		SUITS PENDING AT THE END OF THE YEAR.	
	Regular cases.	Small Cause Court cases.		Regular cases.	Small Cause Court cases.	Regular cases.	Small Cause Court cases.	Regular cases.	Small Cause Court cases.
1906-07 .	278	1,163	Rs. A. P. 1,38,905 0 0	Days. 35-14	Days. 25	Rs. A. P. 24 6 8	Rs. A. P. 5 4 11	41	124
1907-08 .	381	1,158	1,87,997 8 9	26-5	20-6	15 7 9	5 4 10	43	90

(b) Comparative Statement showing the number and the amount of the decrees executed by the British Courts in Central India during the years 1906-07 and 1907-08, together with the time required and the cost incurred in connection therewith.

YEAR.	Number.	Value.	Duration.	Average cost.	REMARKS.
1906-07 . . .	1,102	Rs. A. P. 1,43,776 0 0	Days. 24-5	15½ annas.	
1907-08 . . .	1,147	2,02,838 15 5	18-6	11 annas.	

(c) Statement showing the number of Civil Appeals and Civil Revision Cases instituted, disposed of, and pending in the British Courts in Central India during the year 1907-08.

NAME OF THE COURT.	Cases instituted.	Cases disposed of, inclusive of those of the previous year.	Cases pending at the end of the year.
The Court of the Agent to the Governor-General	54	62	2
The Court of the 1st Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General .	11	13	1
The Courts of the Political Agents exercising Appellate jurisdiction .	15	15	2

(d) Comparative Statement showing the number of Criminal Cases instituted and the number of the accused dealt with in the British Courts in Central India during the years 1906-07 and 1907-08.

YEAR.	Regular cases.	Cases under the Cantonment Code.	Persons convicted.	Persons acquitted.	Persons otherwise dealt with.	Cases pending at the end of the year.	Persons pending trial at the end of the year.
1906-07 . . .	1,290	1,863	3,042	944	16	31	46
1907-08 . . .	1,252	1,709	3,239	969	20	28	61

(c) Statement showing the number and the result of Criminal Appeals and Criminal Revision Cases instituted in the British Courts in Central India during the year 1907-08.

NAME OF THE COURT.	Cases disposed of.	Cases in which the order of the Lower Court was upheld.	Cases in which the order of the Lower Court was upset.	Cases in which the order was modified.	Cases otherwise dealt with, i.e., transferred, etc.	Cases pending at the end of the year.
The Court of the Agent to the Governor-General . .	43	28	2	4	9	3
The Court of the 1st Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General . .	11	6	1	4	..	3
The Courts of the Political Agents exercising Appellate jurisdiction . .	23	19	..	4	..	1

(f) Comparative Statement showing the number of documents registered in the various British Courts in Central India and the fees realised on that account during the years 1906-07 and 1907-08.

YEAR.	Number of documents registered.	Fees realised.
1906-07	275	Rs. A. P. 825 0 0
1907-08	372	1,271 12 0

APPENDIX No. II.

Statistics relating to rainfall recorded in the Central India Agency during the year 1907-08.

Agency or Residency.	Station	Rainfall during the year 1906-07.	Rainfall during the year 1907-08	Average rainfall during the past 10 years
1. GWALIOR RESIDENCY .	Gwahor Residency	32 05	23 46	30 82
	Gird Gwahor	37 41	25 33	25 67
	Bhind	30 34	28 41	25 13
	Bhander	45 47	23 00	27 93
	Sabalgarh	25 16	17 74	24 02
	Sheopur	21 16	16 20	24 23
	Sipri	32 80	21 95	29 17
	Isagarh	47 63	31 15	32 09
	Bajrangarh	41 29	32 31	30 22
	Bhilga	35 86	27 97	31 09
2 INDORE RESIDENCY .	Basoda	32 07	39 95	33 54
	Indore	40 58	25 13	29 11
	Nimar	39 35	16 96	26 76
	Nimawar	41 93	27 43	33 70
	Rampura-Bhanpura	30 03	23 58	26 38
3 BAGHELKHAND AGENCY	Mahidpur	43 29	17 84	27 73 } Average for the past 5 years only.
	Rewa	46 79	29 29	43 94
	Tentonhar	41 89	33 04	43 62
	Bardi	45 25	41 52	43 87
	Ramnagar	59 39	30 30	43 26
	Sohagpur	41 46	38 19	43 88
	Umaria	49 00	33 07	45 29
	Sutna	51 53	31 84	43 01
	Nagod	61 06	32 94	41 96
	Maihar	49 08	29 96	43 64
4. BHOPAL AGENCY	Sohore	61 56	33 83	33 92
	Bhopal	38 60	31 90	34 62
	Ashta	43 98	27 82	31 28
	Narsinghgarh	60 24	44 37	47 00
	Biaora	45 33	31 92	34 79
	Khilchhipur	31 76	33 07	39 14
	Sironj	32 67	30 33	35 75
	Korwai	40 51	30 24	38 22
	Maksudangarh	48 65	44 93	36 61
	Rajgarh	36 71	31 20	25 88 } Average for the past 3 years only
5. BHOPAWAR AGENCY	Manpur (British)	50 73	27 49	39 58 }
	Sirdarpur	33 70	15 73	24 04 } Do.
6. BUNDELKHAND AGENCY	Nowgong	48 10	30 80	43 07
	Tikamgarh	53 10	24 76	35 44
	Datin	41 09	26 81	36 04
	Samthar	48 87	25 73	33 20
	Panua	68 95	36 89	52 03
	Charkhari	52 94	23 49	39 31
	Chhatarpur	65 11	24 51	46 28
	Ajaigarh	62 31	31 66	47 87
	Bijawar	57 39	31 24	41 10
	Baoni	40 93	27 96	32 23
	Sarila	48 14	20 83	
	Dhurwai	43 50	11 31	
	Alipura	47 21	11 70	
	Jigni	43 68	12 64	
7. MALWA AGENCY .	Lughasi	47 97	39 27	
	Jaora	37 41	22 81	25 58 }
	Ratlam	34 76	21 60	26 00 }
	Sitamau	31 56	14 26	23 44 }
	Sailana	37 19	24 40	27 54 }
	Dewas, Senior Branch	36 65	23 00	31 32 } Average for the past 3 years only.
	Dewas, Junior Branch	35 60	23 00	31 55 }

APPENDIX No. III.

Personnel of the Central India Agency during the year 1907-08.

Appointment.	Name of Incumbent.	PERIOD OF TENURE	
		From	To
I.—POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.			
Agent to the Governor-General.	Lt.-Col. H. Daly, C.S.I., C.I.E. Lt.-Col. C. Herbert, I.A.	1st April 1907 and 27th October 1907. 14th September 1907	13th September 1907. 31st March 1908. 26th October 1907.
Commissioner of Excise in Central India.	Mr. J. H. Cox, I.C.S.		Throughout the year.
First Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General.	Mr. L. W. Reynolds, I.C.S. Mr. P. E. Warburton, I.C.S.	1st April 1907 11th April 1907	10th April 1907. 31st March 1908.
2nd Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General.	Lieut. C. F. McKenzie, I.A. Lieut. G. F. W. Anson, I.A.	1st April 1907 24th March 1908	23rd March 1908. 31st March 1908.
Extra Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General and Treasury Officer at Indore.	Rai Sahib Pandit Nand Lal Mr. H. Dracott	1st April 1907 and 12th January 1908. 1st November 1907.	31st October 1907 31st March 1908. 11th January 1908.
Nativo Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General.	Lala Piyare Lal Lala Rasik Behari	1st April 1907 and 27th December 1907 14th November 1907	13th November 1907. 31st March 1908. 26th Decemher 1907.
Resident at Gwalior	Major (now Lt.-Col.) H. L. Showers, C.I.E., I.A. Major (now Lt.-Col.) A. F. Pinhey, C.I.E., I.A.	1st April 1907 14th October 1907	13th October 1907. 31st March 1908.
Resident at Indore	Mr. O. V. Bosanquet, I.C.S. Major (now Lt.-Col.) J. L. Kaye, I.A.	1st April 1907 16th August 1907	15th August 1907. 31st March 1908.
Political Agent in Baghelkhand.	Major W. M. Cubitt, I.A. Mr. L. W. Reynolds, I.C.S. Major (now Lt.-Col.) C. F. Minchin, D.S.O., I.A.	1st April 1907 6th December 1907. 29th December 1907	5th December 1907. 28th December 1907. 31st March 1908.
Political Agent in Bhopal	Major S. F. Bayley, I.A.		Throughout the year.
Political Agent in Bhopawar	Major F. G. Beville, C.I.E., I.A.		Ditto.
Political Agent in Bundelkhand.	Mr. W. E. Jardine, I.C.S.		Ditto.
Assistant to the Political Agent in Bundelkhand.	Lieutenant G. D. Ogilvie, I.A.	3rd February 1908	31st March 1908.
Political Agent in Malwa	Major P. T. Spence, I.A. Major (now Lt.-Col.) J. L. Kaye, I.A., (in addition to his own duties as Resident at Indoro). Lt.-Col. L. S. Newmarch, I.A.	1st April 1907 1st October 1907 1st November 1907	30th September 1907. 31st October 1907. 31st March 1908.
Superintendent of Gazetteer in Central India.	Capt. C. E. Luard, I.A. Mr. P. Hide, M.A., (in addition to his own duties as Principal of the Daly College, Indore).	1st April 1907 14th April 1907	13th April 1907. 31st March 1908.
II.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.			
Administrative Medical Officer in Central India and Residency Surgeon, Indore.	Major (now Lt.-Col.) J. R. Roberts, M.B., I.M.S.	1st April 1907 and 16th July 1907.	9th May 1907. 31st March 1908.
Residency Surgeon, Gwalior	Major H. Burden, I.M.S., (in addition to his own duties as Agency Surgeon, Bhopawar).	10th May 1907	15th July 1907.
	Major P. J. Lumsden, I.M.S. Hospital Assistant S. P. Barvo Capt. F. D. S. Fayrer, I.M.S.	1st April 1907 25th April 1907 9th November 1907.	24th April 1907. 8th November 1907. 31st March 1908.

Personnel of the Central India Agency during the year 1907-1908—contd.

Appointment.	Name of Incumbent.	PERIOD OF TENURE.	
		From	To
II.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT <i>—contd.</i>			
Agency Surgeon, Baghel-khand	Major E. W. Hore, I.M.S. .	Throughout	the year.
Agency Surgeon, Bhopal	Major G. W. Grant, I.M.S . Capt. G. A. Jolly, I.M.S. (in addition to his own duties as Medical Officer of the 46th Punjabis) Major F. A. Smith, M.D., I.M.S	1st April 1907 25th April 1907 14th May 1907	24th April 1907. 13th May 1907. 31st March 1908.
Agency Surgeon, Bhopawar	Major H. Burden, I.M.S . Major (now Lt Col.) J. R. Roberts, M.B., I.M.S. (in addition to his own duties as Administrative Medical Officer in Central India and Residency Surgeon, Indore). Capt. J. H. Hugo, M.B., D.S.O., I.M.S Capt. J. R. J. Tyrell, I.M.S. .	1st April 1907 22nd November 1907 and 5th January 1908 25th December 1907 12th February 1908. 1st April 1907	21st November 1907. 24th December 1907. 11th February 1908. 4th January 1908. 15th May 1907.
Agency Surgeon, Bundel-khand.	Leut J. M. Skinner, I.M.S (in addition to his own duties as Medical Officer of the 37th Dogras) Capt. J. H. Hugo, M.B., D.S.O., I.M.S.	16th May 1907 7th January 1908	6th January 1908. 31st March 1908
Assistant Surgeon, Indore Charitable Hospital.	Rao Sahib P. R. Bhandarkar .	Throughout	the year.
III.—POLICE DEPARTMENT.			
Inspector-General of the Central India Agency Police and Assistant to the Agent to the Governor General in the Criminal Branch.	Mr. H. G. Waterfield . .	Throughout	the year.
District Superintendent of the Central India Agency Police.	Mr. F. H. Biggwithier . . Inspector F. Dracott . .	1st April 1907 9th August 1907	8th August 1907. 31st March 1908.
IV.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.			
Superintending Engineer and Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General in the Public Works Department	Brevet Col. W. W. Baker, R.E.	Throughout	the year.
Consulting Engineer, Protective Irrigation Works	Mr. H. Marsh, C.I.E. . .		Ditto
Executive Engineer, Indore Division	Mr. G. L. Thomson . .		Ditto
Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Rajputana and Central India.	Mr. W. C. Davis . . Mr. M. W. Clifford . .	1st April 1907 22nd March 1908	21st March 1908. 31st March 1908.
Sub Divisional Officer, Mhow	Mr. H. J. Olphant (Assistant Engineer) Mr. C. C. Ray (Executive Engineer)	1st April 1907 25th August 1907	24th August 1907. 20th January 1908.
Snb-Divisional Officer, Sehore.	Rai Sahib Prayagdas (Assistant Engineer) Mr. C. C. Ray (Executive Engineer)	21st January 1908 1st April 1907	31st March 1908. 24th August 1907.

Personnel of the Central India Agency during the year 1907-1908—concl'd.

Appointment.	Name of Incumbent.	PERIOD OF TENURE.	
		From	To
IV.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT— <i>contd.</i>			
Sub-Divisional Officer, Indore.	Mr. K. F. Bhatena (Temporary Engineer).	1st April 1907	17th June 1907.
V.—CANTONMENT MAGISTRATES.			
Cantonment Magistrate, Mhow.	{ Major M. Stevens, I.A. Capt. V. D. V. Hunt, I.A.	1st April 1907 23rd July 1907	22nd July 1907. 31st March 1908.
Assistant Cantonment Magistrate, Mhow.	{ Capt. V. D. V. Hunt, I.A. Capt. P. N. Leslie, I.A.	1st April 1907 23rd July 1907	22nd July 1907. 31st March 1908.
Cantonment Magistrate, Neemuch.	Major J. W. H. Lyon, I.A.	.	Throughout the year.
Cantonment Magistrate, Nowgong.	Major R. W. Burton, I.A.	.	Ditto
VI.—EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.			
Principal, Daly College	Mr. P. Hide . . .	.	Ditto
Assistant Master, Daly College	Mr. F. D. H. Joy . . .	.	Ditto
Ditto ditto	Mr. V. A. S. Stow . . .	.	Ditto

APPENDIX NO. IV.

Memorandum of resolutions passed by the Conference of Forest Officers in the Central India Agency held at Indore, on the 11th and 12th November 1907, under the presidency of A. M. F. CACCIA, Esq., Imperial Superintendent of Forest Working Plans to the Government of India.

I.—That it is advisable ultimately to have only a single class of forests. As to the Constitution and declaration of State forests area of waste or unoccupied land which it is and the regulation of concessions to forest advisable to declare, State Forest circumstances vary from State to State.

Where, as in Panna, the area of waste land bears a very high proportion to the total area of the State, it is in the opinion of the Conference sufficient to reserve large blocks of forest (if practicable, suitably distributed throughout the State to meet local requirements) on the efficient protection and management of which the Forest Department can concentrate its energies, without attempting the protection of the whole area. Waste areas, the maintenance of which under forest growth is important on account of the value of such forests in the protection of hill-sides, water-courses, catchment areas, &c., should be declared State forests.

On the contrary, where the forest area is more restricted, e.g. in Indore, Rajgarh and Narsinghgarh, it should all be declared State forest and be brought under efficient protection provided that the boundary of the forest does not run too close to village sites.

In the former case a certain area of waste land would be left outside the declared State forests to the control of the Revenue Department and would supply to some extent the grazing and *nistar* requirements of the local population. Only a portion of the declared State forests would have to meet such requirements, viz., in the case of residents of villages within, say, 3 miles of those forests.

In these belts or tracts of unreserved forest or waste land the Conference is of opinion that certain trees, valuable for their timber or minor produce, should be reserved and protected, i.e., should not be cut without the permission of the Forest Department and cutting of any species for sale should be strictly prohibited.

Within such large blocks of State forests such villages as exist should be maintained and demarcated, those of them which are small and composed of people of aboriginal tribes being, where feasible (i.e., where the Forest Department is in a fairly strong position), placed under forest management.

Where the whole available area of waste land is declared State forest, the management of such forests should be largely determined with a view to the supply of local requirements, but the Conference is of opinion that this should not hinder the efficient protection of such forests.

Demarcation of State forests.

II.—That demarcation should immediately follow the declaration of State forests.

III.—That the rule should generally be followed to allow the residents of villages

Regulation of privileges in State forests. in and adjacent to the forests special facilities for obtaining their *nistar* requirements from such forests on payment of commutation fees.

IV.—That the commutation system is only suitable for adoption in the case of villages surrounded by, or in the immediate vicinity of, State forests, say, to a distance

of 3 miles from such forests though no uniformity can be expected in the various States as to the width of the belt within which this system might be advantageously followed.

The Conference considers that, in the case of residents of villages with such a belt round the State forests, the payment of commutation fees for *nistar* requirements should, where feasible, be compulsory, say in the case of certain special classes, e.g. State servants, labourers, &c. Nor, in the opinion of the Conference, can uniformity be expected in the scale of commutation fees, in view of the enormous differences which exist in the market value of forest produce in the various States.

That, as a rule, the recovery of such commutation fees, for *nistar* requirements, should be effected through the revenue authorities, the process and details being checked by a forest official not below the status of range officer.

That the definition of the produce which should be covered by the term *nistar* must be left to be settled in each State according to the density of the local population, the local value of forest produce, &c.

V.—That the levy of grazing dues should be similarly arranged, i.e., that the Levy of grazing dues. residents of all villages within State forests or within a narrow belt, say of 3 miles' width

round such forests, should be required (save where such a course is contrary to local revenue settlements or unalterable custom) to pay grazing dues for all their cattle, exempted under a specified scale as necessary for agricultural purposes, while residents

outside the prescribed belt would only be required to pay grazing dues on cattle which they may actually graze within the forests, no exemption being allowed.

VI.—That forest officers in adjacent or neighbouring States should endeavour, by co-operation and occasional exchange of views, Combined action to avoid reckless competition to avoid undue competition between the various States in the disposal and sale of their produce, such as would merely entail a sacrifice of revenue to both States.

The general experience of members of the Conference has been that in every part of Central India the market value of forest produce has been reduced by such reckless competition in the past to a small fraction of that current in adjoining British Provinces, a state of affairs which they desire to see remedied in the interests of the finalees of the Native States.

VII.—That, wherever sufficient demand exists to enable timber and fuel to be sold, Regulation of fellings. located and regulated fellings should be introduced in forests, as soon as possible after their demarcation has been effected, in place of the unregulated fellings previously existing.

Also that, in so far as funds permit, some capital expenditure should be incurred on improvement fellings, in the strict sense of the term, i.e., cultural operations, in all valuable forests which are under management. This should be done regardless of the possibility or impossibility of realising any revenue by the sale of the produce of such fellings. As far as possible, schemes for such fellings or cultural operations (working plans) for a term of years should be prepared in advance.

VIII.—That, though the Forest Department should maintain and protect from fire Provision of fodder reserves. large tracts of forest which will afford valuable grazing in years of fodder scarcity, the Conference would recommend that attention should be paid to the possibility of supplementing the provision thus made. That the revenue authorities in the various States should be advised to set apart and to maintain small areas as grass *birs* or *ramnas* in villages remote from the forests in order to facilitate and encourage the stall-feeding of cattle. It is felt that the maintenance of such grass *birs* is not the legitimate work of the Forest Department and in many cases cannot be efficiently managed by that Department with the present very meagre and unsatisfactory establishments.

It is suggested, however, that the Forest Department should attempt to secure the fuller utilisation of the fodder resources in the forests by advising on the improvement of the water-supply therein.

The Conference recognises that nothing can be done by the States in the way of collecting and storing fodder grass merely as a precaution or insurance against fodder famine, where (as seems to be universally or almost exclusively the case) such measures would entail recurring annual loss. It is, however, suggested that for the supply of the requirements of State Cavalry, &c., it might be feasible to use hay stacked for 1 or 2 years and thus to have a certain useful amount of fodder in hand for the assistance of cultivation on the occurrence of fodder famines.

IX.—That the forest officers in Central India might assist each other considerably Circulation of useful information on sylvicultural topics. and facilitate their own work by circulating information as to the results of all experiments made in sowing and planting operations, the methods employed, and full details of the conditions under which the experiments were made being communicated.

That reports of any such experiments which have been successful should be communicated to the Forest Research Institute, the staff of the latter being also requested to favour the officers in Central India with advice based on their personal investigations and with reports as to the results obtained in British provinces.

X.—That in the opinion of this Conference it is desirable that a forest school should be started in Central India for the local training of forest subordinates. Training of forest officers and subordinates. The provincial school in the Central Provinces cannot, it is understood, arrange for the admission and training of as many candidates as the Central India States would wish to depute and it is most important, in the opinion of this Conference, that subordinates should be trained locally, i.e., in a Native State and among the forest conditions prevailing in Central India. Were such a school established, it is thought the States would more willingly depute candidates for training and that candidates would more readily come forward for training. None of the forest officers now in Central India would, however, conceivably undertake the onus of establishing and conducting even a short training class for such subordinates in addition to his other duties. As regards the training of candidates of a superior class, those with a knowledge of English, the Conference recognises the necessity of deputing such men to the Forest College at Dehra Dun.

XI.—The Conference further considers that it would conduce to the greatest Instruction of Chiefs' sons in the principles of forestry possible ultimate benefit of the Central India States and to the advancement of the cause of forestry in the Agency if it were feasible

for a course of lectures on forestry to be delivered annually to the senior students of the Daly College for the sons of Chiefs and Nobles at Indore. The instruction given should, in the opinion of this Conference, be of a character to illustrate to these future Chiefs and Nobles of Central India the actual effects and results of forest protection, the present deteriorate condition of their forests, the climatic protective material, and pecuniary benefits to be derived from sound forest conservancy.

As regards this suggestion also the Conference can only express the hope that an officer may be appointed who may have the leisure as well as the qualifications to deliver such a course of lectures, no forest officer at present in the Agency being free for the purpose.

XII.—That from every point of view it is most desirable that those States which have not yet placed their forest under sound forest management should be led to see the advantages of such a course. That it generally hampers the work of many forest officers at present employed in the Agency that the forests in States adjoining those under their control should continue to be mismanaged in disregard of every sound principle of forestry.

While recognising the extreme difficulties of the position and the certainty that progress in the desired direction can at best be but slow, this Conference is of opinion that the best method of attaining this object would be the appointment of an advisory and consultative forest officer in Central India.

Such an officer might, in the opinion of the Conference, in addition to the duties specially contemplated in the present resolution, control the suggested local forest school for subordinates and lecture occasionally to the students at the Daly College.

XIII.—Various other subjects were discussed by the Conference, e.g. methods of fire-protection, the collection and extended cultivation of minor forest produce, &c., but on these no definite resolutions could usefully be passed. The members of the Conference, however, highly valued the privilege of the opportunity of meeting and discussing such subjects with each other and venture to express the hope that they may be permitted to meet again similarly at some future date. In conclusion they would express their thanks to the Chiefs whom they serve for permitting them thus to confer on important questions connected with their profession.

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